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SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

228 Pitt Street,

Aug. 27, 1929.

Mr. Carl Hansen,
Division of Pomology,
University Farm,
Davis, Cal.

Dear Mr. Hansen:

In reply to your letter of August 5, forwarded
to me by the Berkeley Gazette ----

All the information which I published about
the Mrs. Weschester's strange house was gathered from
a long article about this house in the Wide World Magazine
for April, 1929. page 481. If I have been misinformed I
am sorry that I published the statements that you say are
false.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

John Hix

U. S. TAKES OVER BIG HOSPITAL HERE FORMALLY TODAY

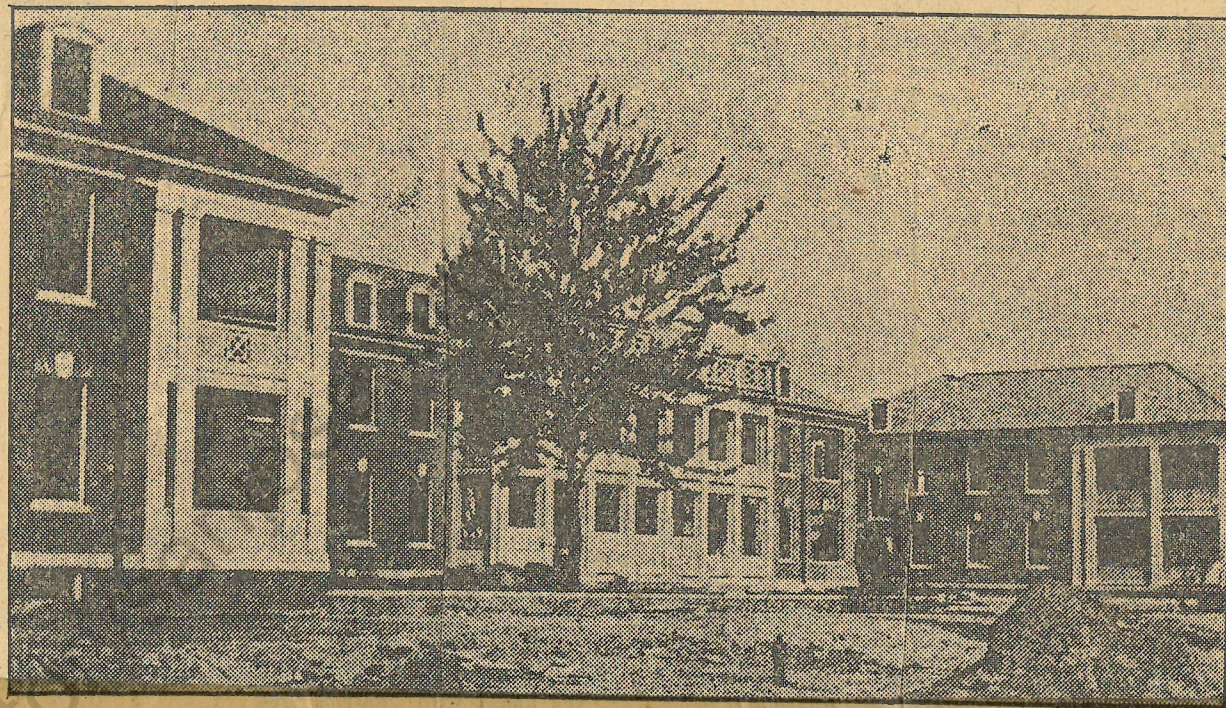
Major Foster and Staff in Control of Institution on Site of Old Lion Park in West Haven—Convalescent and Tubercular Soldiers to Be Treated There.

Major A. M. Foster of the medical corps of the army with a staff of five officers and 26 enlisted men have arrived in New Haven and are stationed at the hospital on the site of the old Lion park in West Haven, which has been taken over under lease by the U. S. government from the General Hospital society, which controls the New Haven hospital. The plant in Allingtown has been formally opened under the direction of the army officers and it is now ready to receive convalescent and tubercular soldiers for treatment. The hospital in Allingtown is one of five in the country the government has taken over and will be maintained for the treatment of soldiers. The Allingtown covers 40 acres of land and is from the New Haven County. There are nine buildings, a construction and the plant is considered to be the most modern equipped of its kind in the country. The plant was a gift to the New Haven hospital by a person who has never been made public. The hospital society. The plant, with equipment, represents a cost of \$1,000,000.

The hospital in Allingtown was because the New Haven hospital has been without facilities for the treatment of tuberculosis. The fact that the government in no way inconvenience the New Haven hospital and takes the plant at this time. The New Haven hospital for the plant has been turned over by the contractor to the hospital.

Major Foster stated this morning that the staff will be enlarged on. "We are making arrangements now and completing our organization and as soon as that part of our work is completed we will be ready to receive 200 patients, the capacity of the hospital at the present time. If we are in hopes that we may purchase additional buildings here and greatly enlarge our facilities for treating the men. Plans for the buildings are under way now."

Section of Big Hospital for Soldiers Here



New Haven March 7, 1918

NEW WAR HOSPITAL IN ALLINGTOWN IS ABOUT READY TO RECEIVE PATIENTS

Major Foster and Staff Prepare For Coming of Tuberculosis Victims—Head and Attendants at Big Institution Experienced Men and Women In Their Line.

With a staff consisting at present of eight medical officers who in civil life were eminent specialists in the treatment and study of tuberculosis, the new United States Military hospital in Allingtown, for the care of soldiers afflicted with consumption, is today in complete readiness for immediate operation and awaiting only the arrival of its first patients.

Aside from the establishment permanently maintained in the mountains of New Mexico, the institution here is the first of four such provided by the government for use during the war, and for a long time will be the only one as the three to be located at Denver, Colorado, Orisville, N. Y., and Asheville, N. C., are yet to be constructed.

The local sanatorium is to be known as the Tuberculosis Annex of the New Haven hospital, and was erected with

ford.

Major Forster is surrounded by a corps of officers who were also selected for the service by reason of their long experience, careful training and diligent study in matters pertaining to the most common of all diseases. There are seven with him now, but the number will be added to so that by the time the hospital has its capacity number of patients, there will be a resident staff of at least twenty specialists, not to speak of a sufficient body of enlisted men, numbering 27 doubled. Miss Mary Whitney, of the army nursing corps, is chief nurse, and has a staff of six trained nurses with her in charge of this important branch of the work. An efficient staff of technical workers, enlisted men and employees, laundry and kitchen workers, supply help, gardening workers, engineering men, etc., com-

for the use of the Allingtown institution. The place was nearing completion, and knowing of the need that existed for such an establishment, Dr. Blumer, dean of the Yale Medical School, who is in charge of the sanatorium, tendered its use to the war department. Colonel Bushnell came to New Haven to inspect the place, and finding it to be ideal for the purposes required, recommended its acceptance.

A lease was entered into between the government and the hospital authorities for an indefinite period to cover the duration of the war, and became effective March 1. Building operations were hastened and the place made ready for early occupation, finally reaching the stage when Major Forster felt free, during the early part of last week to advise Colonel Bushnell that he was ready to receive patients.

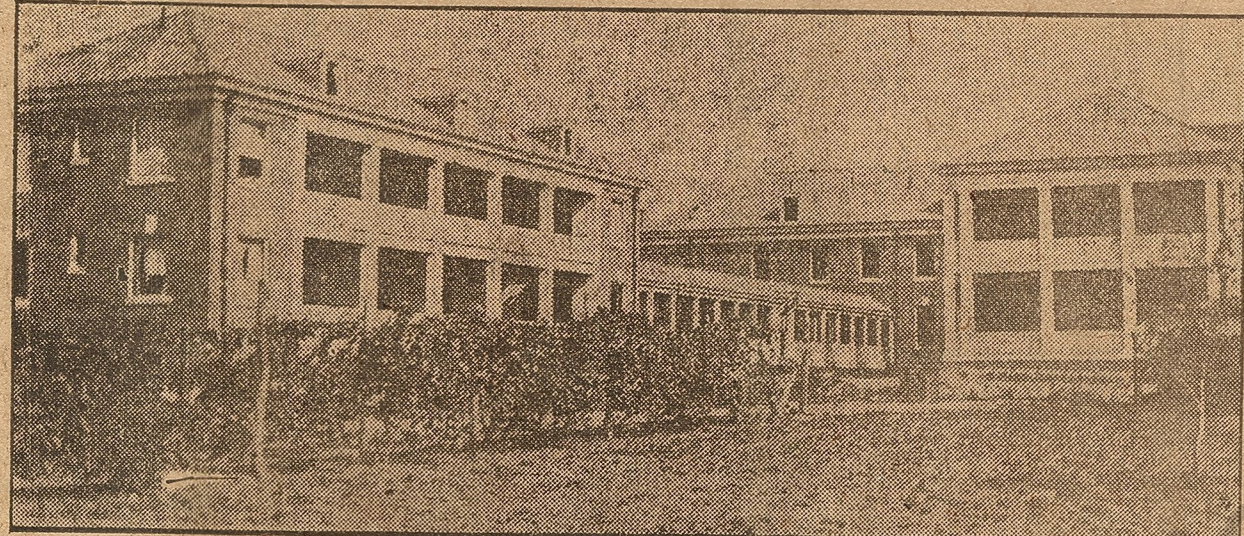
As it stands now, the institution is capable of accommodating 200 patients, but because it is believed that there will be need for provision for a large number of sufferers, plans are now under consideration for increasing the capacity of the place. In all likelihood, new buildings will be erected so as to admit of the handling of a total of 500 patients, or perhaps more. The staff would necessarily be much larger than now contemplated, also.

The hospitals being built in the other cities named are each to accom-

GOVERNMENT STAFF IN ALLINGTOWN HOSPITAL



LEFT TO RIGHT, FRONT ROW—CAPTAIN BRICKELL, MAJOR FORSTER, FIRST LIEUT. DONOVAN, CHIEF NURSE WHITNEY, CAPTAIN MERRELL. MIDDLE ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT—FIRST LIEUT. BYRD, CAPTAIN SWAN, FIRST LIEUT. EWING. AT THE TOP—CAPTAIN ELLIS.



THE NEW WAR HOSPITAL IN ALLINGTOWN ABOUT READY TO RECEIVE PATIENTS.

funds donated for the purpose by givers whose names are not disclosed, but who were interested in the fight that is being waged against the dreaded White Plague, and is said to be the best, most up-to-date and most improved institution of its kind in the country.

In command of it now is Major A. M. Forster, of the United States Medical Reserve, who before entering the army won distinction as a tuberculosis expert, and who abandoned a lucrative practice to take up the work he is now doing. He is an able officer, and a courteous gentleman, being a native of the state where courtesy is inherent in its sons—Virginia. It is interesting to note that he lived in this city for a time, thirteen years ago, when he acted as assistant to Dr. David R. Lyman, now head of the Gaylord Farm sanatorium, in Walling-

pletes the personnel, which is almost entirely military.

Government use of the Allingtown hospital, which even now is not completely finished in all respects, was first approved by Col. George F. Bushnell, one of the greatest tuberculosis experts in the United States today, who is in charge of the fight against consumption in the army. Colonel Bushnell, a Yale graduate, class of 1880, surrounded himself with a corps of three hundred officers, selecting them from among the most highly trained and successful specialists in civil life, when he was designated to supervise the important work at hand, and is himself taking an active part in all that is being done for the treatment of the disease.

Since last spring negotiations have been pending between the local hospital authorities and the government

modate 1,000 patients, but with provision for 3,500 men throughout the country. It is felt that there will not be any space going to waste. At present there are approximately 3,500,000 American soldiers under arms, and applying the rate of tuberculosis sufferers to these ranks in proportion to the percentages afflicted in civil life, it would appear that the prospect of 3,500 patients is not at all exaggerated.

It must be understood, of course, that it is not the army line which would cause tuberculosis to affect so many, but because the rigorous training, the change in mode of living, the exercise, etc., all are conducive to bringing to the surface the innate condition which lies dormant in a great majority of people, particularly those between the ages of 20 and 40. A German saying of old is that every per-

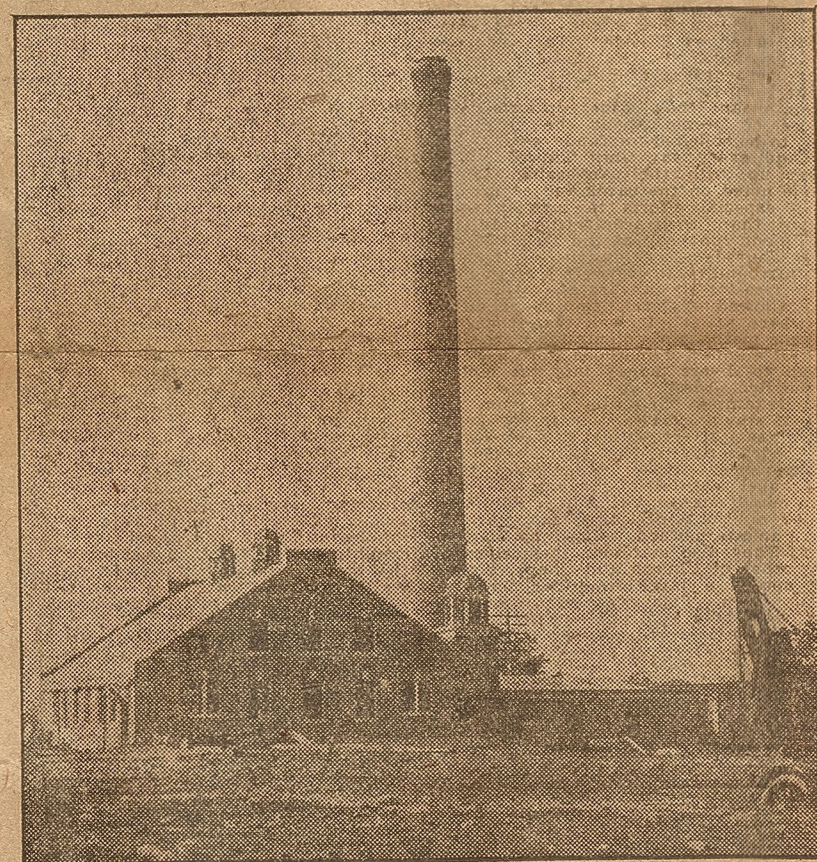
being contaminated. The disease appears spontaneously in people at certain ages and under certain conditions. It is said, and hardly affects any two people with the same violence or results. The reason for the scourge which the disease, most common of all to which man is prone, visited upon the French armies in the earliest stages of the war, military authorities declare, was the fact that France was not prepared for war, and when she had to rush her armies into the field to defend her very existence against German aggression, she had no time to carefully examine her soldiers or to give the suffering necessary treatment. It was only with difficulty that serious consequences were averted.

America entered the war under different circumstances, was able to give each man careful training, to station divisions in sanitary, well built and well maintained camps and barracks, and to provide ample means for preventing outbreaks of plagues, hence was not the occasion for displaying alarm similar to that when the conditions in France were made known.

The sanatorium here, will, of course, be used for nothing but the treatment of tuberculosis among soldiers, and the patients will come from all parts of the United States. The institution is ideally adapted to the purpose for which it was built and for which it is now to be used. Both its location and its construction are such as to afford sanitation, safety, comfort and convenience. The buildings are fireproof and easily kept clean and cool. They are situated on an eminence overlooking one of the most delightful parts of Allingtown. The premises cover a tract of about 40 acres, most of which is good, fertile soil. The air and surroundings are healthful.

The land, except for the portions used for driveways, lawns, etc., will be tilled, and the produce used both in the sanatorium and the New Haven hospital. Garden plots will be assigned for the special benefit of some of the patients who are able to take light exercise and who will be allowed to raise their own crops. The institution is on the car line to West Haven, easy of access, and has a beautiful approach, the grounds being surrounded by an artistic wire fence, and being partly covered in front with beautiful shrubbery and evergreen growth. Brick-paved and gravel foot and vehicle paths lead to the main structures.

Scopes and Faustmann of Boston, recognized as among the leading designers of sanatoriums in the country, planned the buildings with the aid of Dr. Cox, superintendent of the New Haven hospital, who is himself a noted authority in such matters. There are four buildings, all as well and sensibly built as they are handsome. They are well lighted, well ventilated, fireproof, and the rooms, offices, etc., are conveniently arranged and located. The principal offices are in the main building, which is on the crest of the



THE HEATING PLANT A MODERN ONE.

hill. All of the structures are of brick and steel, and the furnishings throughout each are extremely simple, but useful and durable.

One building, at the very entrance to the grounds, is a sort of keeper's or gardener's lodge, and is patterned after the pretty old English type of garden house. Beside this there are two houses, one providing residence for the official staff, the other for the nurses. Accommodation for the enlisted men is provided in the main hospital or administration building.

All of the equipment, technical and otherwise, is of the latest and most approved sort.

The officers at present with Major Forster are: Capt. Charles H. Merrill,

Capt. Thomas F. Ellis, Capt. Will H. Swan, Capt. John B. Brickley, First Lieut. Charles K. Ervin, First Lieut. Harry O. Byron, and First Lieut. Daniel C. Donovan.

A PROFESSIONAL CALL.

Cholly—Did you go to the show last night?

Algernon—No; I attended a sleight-of-hand performance.

Cholly—Where?

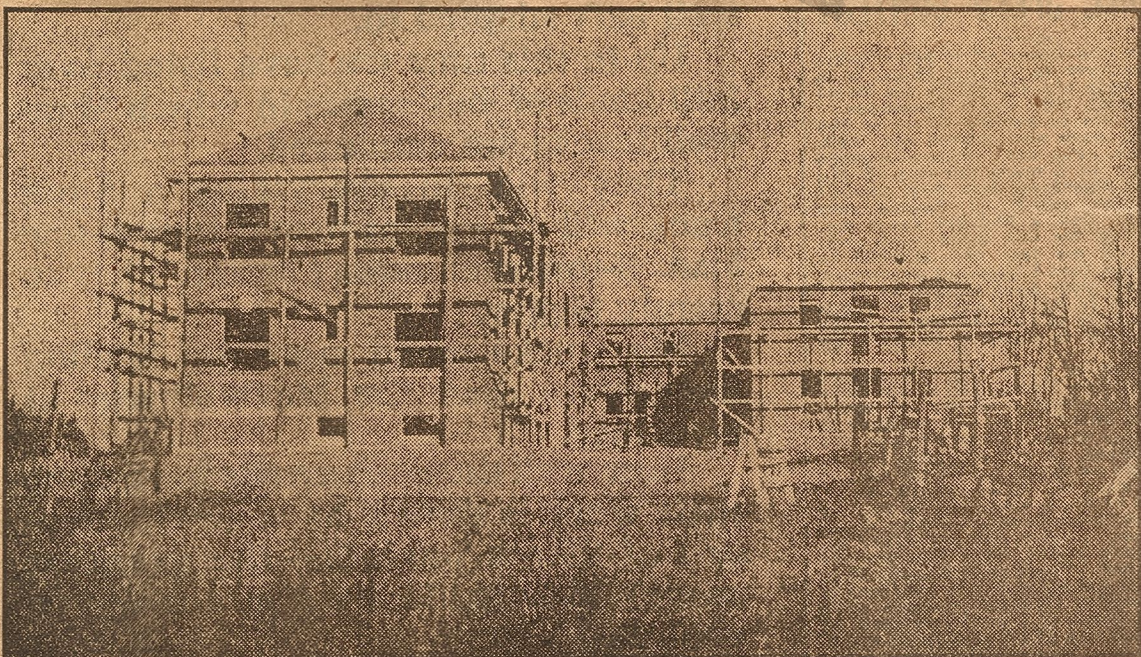
Algernon—I went to call on Miss Sweete and offered my hand, but she slighted it.—Exchange.

A "For Rent" ad. which tells the essential facts about a desirable offering will always bring results.

THE BIG WATER TOWER OF THE HOSPITAL.

son, in the end, is found to have a bit of tuberculosis in his system, and this is not disputed by the military authorities.

The modern theory is that the disease is not catching in ways commonly supposed by the laity. Sanatorium attendants, nurses, doctors, orderlies, and such have lived for years among victims of the white plague without



ONE OF THE WINGS OF THE HOSPITAL JUST ABOUT COMPLETED.

Mystery Shrouds One-Time Famous Spirit Haven

Visitors Are Cordially Received During Daylight Hours
But Police Dogs Patrol Ghostly Gardens at Night



A zinc replica of Chief Warwhoop, one of Mrs. Winchester's spirit friends, being admired by a pretty visitor to the strange house.



An unusual view of the ghost-ridden Winchester home, where carpenters worked for 36 years, constructing blind stairways, windows that opened into walls, 2000 doors, 3 electric elevators, an uncanny labyrinth in which visitors often lose their way.



Mrs. Brown, who was imprisoned in one of the rooms and forced to escape through a chimney.

Rich Widow Builds House On Orders Of Watchful Wraiths Who Dictated Plans

By JOE CUSTER

FOR 13 years the spooks who inherited the building monstrosity that is the Winchester mystery mansion have had free run of the place, and according to the best traditions of phantom etiquette, they're likely to pay their respects most any time now with some sign of acknowledgment for the unusual courtesies practiced in their behalf.

For, according to the regulations mapped out by the late Sarah Winchester, who spent \$5,000,000 and 36 years of continuous construction, the spirits have always been allowed plenty of elbow room for their frolics during the witching hours.

While the late widow of the wealthy firearms manufacturer lived in this weird mansion herself, the spirits were always assured a house to haunt, one especially constructed for their peculiar desires.

A-1 hospitality reigned unchecked then, even to the point of sounding the hour so that the phantom visitors might know when it was time to bid silent adieu and slither silently back to their respective graveyards. A bell tolled at midnight, at 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning for this purpose, and remained silent the rest of the 24 hours.

Either by accident or design, much the same custom prevails today. Mr. and Mrs. John H. Brown, originally of Pittsburgh, have been caretakers and guides for the world's weirdest residence for 13 years.

Visitors are received courteously and escorted through the nooks and corners of the labyrinth of rooms and passageways at any and all hours of the day, Sundays and holidays included, for instance, but no one is allowed near the place after dark.

POLICE dogs, with a keen sense of responsibility, and feverish eagerness to fulfill their duties, patrol the grounds at night, just as they did in Mrs. Winchester's day, while watchmen likewise sleep with a sixth sense alert for invaders.

Spiritualistic groups requesting a chance to commune with the departed on Ghostdom's red-letter day, Friday 13, have been politely but firmly denied, and in the 13 years of exploitation of the mystery mansion as a curiosity, only one mortal, the late Houdini, ever stepped across the threshold after sundown.

The Browns ascribe their stringent policy to their dread of fire, with the amplification that they cannot possibly take any risks whatever with so valuable a property.

Now and then the spooks drop a hint, too, that they're lurking about.

One of them, for instance, slammed a door and imprisoned a startled Mrs. Brown shortly after she had gone into the business of attending the house that ghosts built. With her heart pounding like a bass drum in a canyon, Mrs. Brown discovered that the door, which had never closed of its own volition before, had no handle on the inside! She was stranded in a lonely section for hours, until she finally escaped

The Winchester bell tower, from which the ancient bell tolled midnight, signaling phantom callers it was time to leave the rambling house and spacious gardens.

by crawling through a demolished fireplace into the late owner's private bedroom.

Another spirit dropped a little pill box of an eventide, in the most conspicuous part of the \$100,000 ballroom—in which no ball was ever held—and thus disclosed the death notice of Mrs. Winchester's only child, in 1881, with five strands of baby hair.

THERE are the usual ghostly moans and twishes at night, too, but the caretakers pay little heed to them. These are but routine manifestations, to be expected of any old house, and scarcely worthy of serious consideration.

Of the huge, constantly shifting staff of workers whose tools and time fashioned the eccentric pattern of the complicated structure, few are to be found in the vicinity now, although some of them revisit the scene of their labor intermittently, from all corners of the globe.

One of those still pursuing his trade of tile-setting in San Jose is Harry Borchers.

In recalling his employment at the mansion, Borchers admitted that the widow's wishes were rather peculiar at times, but admired her appreciation of art in his particular endeavor.

"I don't know if Mrs. Winchester got her plans from the spirits," he smiled, "but I do know that time and money meant nothing to her. The house contains probably the finest tile work in the world. She imported materials from all parts of the globe, and everything was done by hand. We'd work for days or weeks on perhaps one small installation, but the work was done so perfectly that even to this day it looks as though it had been just put into place."

Mrs. Winchester rewarded her workers well, but shifted them frequently, ostensibly so that no one could formulate a definite idea of her plans.

"I rarely caught more than a glimpse of her," Borchers said. "Sometimes she'd suddenly appear out of nowhere, and then I'd get the impression that she'd been standing there for some time, watching us work. I understand that she was so upset at coming face to face unexpectedly with a servant girl that she discharged her—but she gave her a year's salary."

"She was always doing something for charity, and for those who served her. Why, she endowed the Winchester Tubercular Sanitarium in the east, and probably gave huge sums to other worthy causes that no one ever was told about."

"Mrs. Winchester was a mite of a woman, four feet, eleven inches tall, and I always felt sorry for her because she was deprived normal use of her limbs."

"On the whole, I'd say that it was quite an experience, working there, and I still hold a lot



John H. Brown, caretaker who denies spiritualists the privilege of holding seances in the mansion.



Harry Borchers, San Jose tile setter, who appreciated the time the widow allowed him to do perfect work.

The only known picture of Mrs. William Wirt Winchester, whose income of \$1000 a day built a \$100,000 ballroom which never was used.

showed how she could construct living quarters for her family in the old mansion, utilizing this same furniture.

Most of the living workers of the huge staff employed by Mrs. Winchester scoff at legendary theories surrounding the edifice, and advance matter-of-fact explanations for the eccentric patterns pursued in its construction.

They differ directly with the school of supposition that Mrs. Winchester followed plans as set down by the spirits, especially one Chief Warwhoop, whose zinc replica still stands in her spacious garden.

They explain that the little widow, four feet, eleven inches in height, and deprived of normal use of her limbs, arranged her home according to both whim and necessity, and followed through an expensive hobby of constant building to unusual phases.

The more popular theory, however, shrouds the edifice in mystery, generously intermingled with the spirits of those dispatched from the earth by the bullets manufactured by Mrs. Winchester's late husband, son of the founder of the firearms concern of the same name.

When William Wirt Winchester shuffled off this mortal coil in 1885, he left his widow \$20,000,000 and an income of \$1,000 per day from royalties.

Her child having died in infancy, Mrs. Winchester left the lair of evil spirits that she believed surrounded the munitions factory in New Haven, Conn., according to this theory, and came West with her niece, Margaret Merriam,

to escape dread visions of the dead, especially Indians who bit the dust when walloped by a bullet.

She hid away in a nine-room, two-story farm house she bought from Dr. Cardwell near San Jose (Calif.).

UNTIL the earthquake in 1906, she visited and received friends, although her eccentricity in construction was manifest. But when the spirits served notice of their displeasure by rudely hurling a chimney across her bedroom, as the quake started, she was reminded that she had apparently shirked her duty.

The section of the house violated by the phantom messengers was straightway boarded up, never to reopen again until after her demise. Her mania, for construction and destruction, addition and subtraction, kept active until the dwelling sprawled over six acres and contained 160 rooms, most of them torn down and rebuilt at least five times.

For 36 years, until she joined her spirit friends in 1922, at the advanced age of 85, Mrs. Winchester had hammers rapping continuously, night and day, following the dictates of watchful wraiths who communed with her in the blue seance room.

To befriend and entertain the good spirits, and to discredit and discourage the bad ones, the widow elaborated on the mansion until it contained 40 stairways, three electric elevators, 47 chimneys, 2000 doors, 500 closets and 7000 windows, all welded together in a maze of bewildering construction.

The bad ghosts had a pretty hard time of it, with blind chimneys and stairways throttling their favorite modes of entrance. Passageways were complicated labyrinths, leading often to nowhere; windows opened on solid walls, as did some doors, while trapdoors, false closets and complicated stairways added to the confusion.

Bathrooms with screen or glass doors repelled unwelcome phantom guests, and frequent groupings of 13, staunch enemy of evil spirits, also confused or disgusted them.

SO THAT no outside visitors should be necessary for any reason, the mansion included its own heating system, with arrangements for wood, coal, gas, hot air, steam or electricity, and had its own laundry, seven kitchens and a greenhouse.

Mortal visitors, even President Teddy Roosevelt, were turned away unceremoniously, and the costly front door, valued at \$2000, opened only thrice—for the entrance and exit of Mary Baker Eddy and when Mrs. Winchester's lifeless form was borne away forever, in 1922.

When Mrs. Winchester decreed to ride in one of her three expensive, imported automobiles, shades were tightly drawn to shield her from curious eyes.

When she wished music, noted orchestras from the world over played in the spacious bandstand in the gardens, with Mrs. Winchester an invisible audience of one.

Her feverish desire for seclusion led the wealthy widow to gradually buy up big chunks of adjacent property, with more than one alert realtor profiting handsomely by the transaction.

A key of solid gold, which unlocks most of the doors in the rambling mansion, has so worn down admitting approximately 25,000 visitors per year, that Brown recently took it off his key ring.

Now and then, a visitor stops suddenly, signals silence, and then tells of whispering "voices."

The psychic claim it is Mrs. Winchester attempting to establish communication. Some of them wish she would explain definitely the quotation etched on the ornate panes in the elaborate ballroom, a quotation which has puzzled visitors from the world over:

"WIDE UNCLASP THE TABLE OF THEIR THOUGHTS
THESE SAME THOUGHTS PEOPLE THIS LITTLE WORLD."

VOL. XXXII.

SAN JOSE CAL. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1897.

No 94

STRANGE STRUCTURE

The Winchester Mansion Is Still Uncompleted.

ADDITIONS STILL BEING MADE.

Furnished Like a Palace and Large Enough for an Army of People.

Out on the Saratoga road about six miles west of San Jose, the workmen are again sawing and hammering in the work of building another addition to and constructing more turrets on the Winchester mansion and placing in position a large metallic American eagle with wings outstretched, which is to add its share in beautifying the strange structure, so pleasantly situated on a pretty fruit farm of 100 acres. This elegant piece of architecture is the home of Mrs. S. L. Winchester, the widow of the inventor of the world-famed Winchester rifle.

Ten or a dozen years ago the handsome residence was apparently ready for occupancy and the consequent dismissal of the builders, but improvements and additions are constantly being made, for the reason, it is said, that the belief exists when work of construction ends disaster will result, and it is rumored among the neighbors that this superstition has resulted in the construction of domes, turrets, cupolas and towers covering territory enough for a castle. Although no part of the structure is over two stories high, the house is large enough to shelter an army.

THE HOUSE STANDS IN the midst of a large and extremely beautiful lawn. Fountains throw their sprays over figures that seem almost human. Beautiful flowers grow everywhere. Roses, lilies, trees, vines, pampas grass and the rarest of plants of every description help to make a magnificent setting for the buildings which resemble an old German castle with its surrounding strongholds.

There are many buildings besides the house, and they, too, show the effects of the owner's odd theory. Summer-houses and conservatories are made with the most picturesque of pinnacles and there are many unexpected niches where groups of statuary are hidden. Even the barns and the granaries are built with the same prevailing idea and they are full of L's and T's which suggest that they were made in parts and are ready at any time for a resumption of the work of improvement.

The first view of the house fills one with surprise. You mechanically rub your eyes to assure yourself that the number of turrets is not an illusion, because they are so fantastic and dream-like. And as you approach nearer, others and many others are revealed in a bewildering spectacle. How it is possible to build on an already apparently finished house and preserve its artistic appearance through so many changes, is a query that no one can answer, but the fact remains that it continues to be done.

LUXURIOUSLY FURNISHED. From every point of view new towers appear and one has to make a circuit of the building to see them all and then some are likely to escape the view, for every addition of the many that are made, has one or more separate roofs, and every roof is elongated into a tower or gracefully rounded into a dome. Not all of those erected are sure to remain, however, for some times they are not pleased to taste of Mrs. Winchester even after she has approved the plans, and then a lot of costly work is likely to be torn down.

The main cupola was pulled down and rebuilt sixteen times before it was satisfactory and it is now allowed to stand. As fast as the additions are constructed and the rooms finished on the interior in the rarest kind of wood—and they are all made with the very latest and most modern accessories—they are furnished with the utmost elegance, and then closed, perhaps not to be again used or opened, or if at all, very little.

Mrs. Winchester and her niece, Miss Merriam live alone in the great residence and its doors are closed, but to a favored few. They entertain very little and strangely seem to enjoy the solitude. The tap, tap, tap of the carpenter's hammer never disturbs them in their cozy and luxurious quarters, which are as far removed from the sound as if it were somebody else's house that is being built.

Mrs. Winchester is about 50 years of age. In business she is shrewd and socially very exclusive. When she first went into the neighborhood, people in the vicinity dutifully called on her but she never returned a call and seldom recognizes any of her neighbors.

Trays! Lumber! Glenwood Co. Cheap!

\$2000.00

Schilling's Best baking powder is concentrated activity. Schilling's Best tea is concentrated delicacy.

A Schilling & Company San Francisco

PARK CONCERT.

There will be a concert by the Marine Band at Alam Rock Park tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The program will be as follows:

March, La Fiesta..... Roncovieri
Overture, Heimweh..... Kiesler
Waltzes, Espanita..... Rosey
Fantasia, Auld Lang Syne, variations for all instruments..... Dalbey
Polka, Whip-Poor-Will..... Muller
Tat Too, Soldiers' Life..... Keler Bela
Schottische, Viviana..... Pettie
Medley, In Gay New York..... De Witt
Serenade, Dream On..... Rathbun
March, The Hustlers, dedicated to the San Jose Board of Trade..... Ebert

BUTTER AND EGGS.

30 Cents Per Roll, 30 Cents.

17 1-2 Cents Per Dozen, 17 1-2 Cents San Jose Creamery, 190 South First street. Both phones.

The colored people will dance at the pavilion tonight. Last night of the Fair.

TOOK THE CAKE.

Milt Johnson Wins it For Most "Graceness."

A Very Pleasant Entertainment Given At the Fair Last Night. One More Night.

The cake walk at the fair last night was a great card. Nearly 6000 people were present in the pavilion and everyone was pleased with the event, so much so that the Executive Committee decided to reproduce the affair tonight.

It was an unusual attraction and to those who had never seen a cake walk it was somewhat of a surprise.

The contestants do not speed for the prize. They walk in their way of "graceness," as Milt Johnson says. There were four contestants with lady partners who were Thomas Moore and Miss Viola Boyd, both of San Francisco; Major Water, the funny man of San Francisco; Milt Johnson of Oakland, the champion of the Pacific Coast; and Miss Elora Holmes of San Francisco, and Professor I. Allen of Oakland and Miss E. Allen of San Francisco.

The exhibition took place on the large stage. They promaded together in separate couples and single, going through all the characteristic carriage of body peculiar to the colored people. They occasionally bowed before the cake and the judges and then resumed their promenade.

The contest was so interesting that the judges were compelled to prolong the program and in doing so, insisted that Milt Johnson and Major Walter walk again. They did so to the great delight of the audience and Johnson was awarded the cake, Major Walters being given the second prize and Mr. Moore the third.

Miss Stella Blumenthal and Miss Birdie Simmons will give fancy dancing tonight. This afternoon was another large attendance at the pavilion.

A number of prizes have already been awarded. Among the agricultural implements, carriages, windmills, etc., the winners are: A. Greeninger & Son, E. Coppock, Keiser & Koch, Thomas Treanor, F. B. Brown, San Jose Agricultural Works, W. C. Anderson, Cunningham & Barngrover, H. E. Lewis.

Others who have been awarded prizes are: J. Wilmes, wireworks; T. J. Gillespie, polished electrolysis; J. Morher, orchard ladder; M. Linton & Son, paints and paper; Garden City Sanitarium, best health foods; Frank Cottle, pumpkins; F. C. Wilson, nursery exhibit; Gallagher Bros., apples.

In addition to the cake walk, which is to be given again this evening, there will be banjo playing, songs, dances, and other entertainment by the colored people, who will also take part in a pie-eating contest.

A Common Experience.

Scene I.—Mr. Johnson is obliged to give up work, resigning in the house and take care of himself on account of a dreadful scrofula sore on one of his limbs.

Scene II.—Mr. Johnson reads a testimonial which tells of scrofula troubles cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla. He resolves to try it, sends for a bottle and begins taking it.

Scene III.—Mr. Johnson has taken six bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla. His scrofula sore is cured. He is feeling stronger, has a good appetite and is able to attend to his work. He writes a testimonial telling of his experience with Hood's Sarsaparilla, and recommends it to others.

Cake Wake.

Cake walk and novel additions tonight at pavilion. Last opportunity to see Milt Johnson and Major Walters.

Two Nights More.

The wonderful veriscope at Turn Verein Hall tonight and Sunday night. General admission 25 cents; reserved seats 50 cents.

Will Eat Pie.

Among the features at the Pavilion tonight will be a pie-eating contest between colored people.

Cake walk and novel additions tonight at pavilion. Last opportunity to see Milt Johnson and Major Walters.

USED A KNIFE.

The Fiendish Act of a Jealous Man.

STABS HIS DIVORCED WIFE.

A Tragedy in Montana—Robbed a Hotel Keeper—Test of a Submarine Boat.

Special to the Evening News.

San Francisco, October 9.—J. G. Bennett, an engineer, today attempted to murder his divorced wife, Villa Bennett, and to kill himself. The tragedy occurred in an apartment house on McAllister street.

The woman is in the Receiving Hospital suffering intensely, but with a good chance for life. The man occupies a cot in the same place. He is weak from the loss of blood, but in no immediate danger of death. The cause of the attempted murder was jealousy.

The man's passion has manifested itself in the cruel beating of the woman and threats against the life of herself and family. Three times the woman has had to fly for her life. Twice she returned to her husband under a promise that he would reform. The latest separation occurred in February last.

After that separation Mrs. Bennett secured a divorce. She then took lodgings in an apartment house, but her husband secured a room next door. He made himself obnoxious and the persecuted woman was compelled to seek other apartments.

Bennett then followed the woman and persecuted her with more malice. The woman finally removed to another place and thought that she was safe, but Bennett again put in appearance.

Since Bennett's last appearance his former wife has been in great alarm and secured the protection of a policeman. This morning the officer left his post for a short time, when Bennett returned to the place, went to her room and finding the door open, he entered.

Mrs. Bennett was sitting in a chair and arose to meet him. She was calm, and he sought her not to fear, and said that he intended to do her no harm. After talking a few moments Bennett placed his arm around the woman's neck as if to kiss her, but instead he ran the blade of a pocket knife into her neck.

At the touch of the blade she attempted to escape. She caught the knife in her hand, and he wrenched it from her, slashing her hand badly. The infuriated man then ran the blade again into the right side of his screaming victim's neck.

She managed to break away from her would-be slayer and ran screaming down the hallway, and attracted the attention of an officer of the Society for the Prevention of Vice, who happened to be in the house, and who went to the woman's aid.

The officers entered the room from which the woman had just emerged, and grappled with Bennett, who had attempted to take his own life by a thrust of the blade into his neck. The latter struggled, but the officers finally subdued him, and he was handed over to the police.

Robbed Fine Host.

Eureka, October 9.—The preliminary examination of Charles Reed and John Dunham, who were arrested Wednesday charged with grand larceny for having robbed Landlord Penner of the American Exchange, of \$80 has been concluded.

The pair were held to answer before the Superior Court and in default of \$300 bail were remanded to jail. These men were recently employed on the British ship Woolahara, from which they deserted.

Recall of General Weyler.

Madrid October 9.—The Cabinet has decided upon the immediate recall of General Weyler from Cuba. A decree will be issued appointing Captain-General Blanco y Arenas, Marquis of Penapla, Governor-General of the island. The Queen Regent will sign the decree today. According to El Heraldo 20,000 re-enforcements will accompany General Blanco to Cuba.

Submarine Boat Trial.

Baltimore, October 9.—A private trial of the submarine boat Argonaut has been had in the dry dock of the Columbia Iron Works, the result of which is said to have been highly satisfactory to her inventor and owners. She was submerged in twenty-one feet of water, remaining under the surface for two hours, during which time constant communication was kept up with those who were in her cabin and engine rooms by means of a rubber tube.

Many tests of her engines were made.

SPRING VALLEY MEAT MARKET

WE KILL EVERY BIT OF OUR MEAT UNDER OUR OWN PERSONAL SUPERVISION.

White beef is high and going higher we are selling going to give the public the benefit of lowest rates on roasts, legs of mutton and on Saturday we will have choice spare ribs, leaf lard, pork roasts, etc.

SPRING VALLEY MEAT MARKET

199 SOUTH FIRST. BOTH PHONES.

and, while the trial was merely preliminary, the inventor asserts that enough was learned to make it certain that the boat will be able to perform the work for which she is designed.

SAVED HIS LIFE.

An Actor Killed by a Runaway Horse.

New York, October 9.—Timothy Jackman, a young operatic artist, who was understudy to De Wolf Hopper, lost his life in saving that of his wife Tuesday, and it was not until after his death that the fact of his marriage became known. Jackman, known on the stage as Edward Jackman, and Miss Myers, whose stage name was Mabel Carden, were both members of "The Fencing Master" company two years ago.

It was then they were secretly married. Mrs. Jackman returned to the home her husband's sister, Miss Abbie Hopper, and it had been arranged in consequence of the rapid advances Jackman was making in his profession that their marriage should be announced within a few months.

Jackman and his wife were walking on Fifth avenue Tuesday, when a runaway horse dashed toward them so unexpectedly that the young man only had time to push his wife out of danger when he was trampled upon so severely that he died soon after being taken to the hospital. The wife sustained injuries which prevented her going to inquire after her husband for two days. When she did so and was informed of his death she went to her sister's house, where the body had been taken, and then it was first known that she was the widow.

DEAD FANATIC.

Passing of the Leader of the Rebels in Brazil.

New York, October 9.—The Herald's Buenos Ayres special says: Contradictory reports have been received in Rio Janeiro as to whether or not Antonio Conselheiro, the leader of the Brazilian fanatics, has been captured, is dead or is at liberty.

The first report was that Conselheiro had been captured. Later this was denied, and it was stated that he had not been taken prisoner, and now comes the report that he is dead.

A detailed report of the battle at Canudos which resulted in a great victory for the Government, and the probable death blow to the rebellion, has just reached Rio Janeiro. According to this report, 600 fanatics were killed in battle and 1500 were taken prisoners. The Government troops in battle lost twenty-three officers, and 277 privates wounded and several killed.

Troops are now pursuing the fanatics remaining in the vicinity of Canudos, and it is believed will ultimately disperse them. More arms and ammunition are being sent forward to the Government forces.

A RICH MAN'S SON.

Found Wandering Insane in Chicago Streets.

Chicago, October 9.—Harry Munhall, said to be the son of Michael Munhall, a multi-millionaire of Pittsburgh, was picked up on the streets two days ago in an insane condition and is now at the Danmeyer Asylum. Munhall's father it is said refuses to extend any aid to his son.

Fifteen years ago young Munhall was employed by his father as a bookkeeper. He claims the old gentleman was frequently cruel to him and that finally a scene took place, at which the son threatened to throw a stone at the father. The young man left home and has not spoken to his father since.

Harry M. Munhall has been in failing health for some time and began to show signs of insanity two months ago. His landlady, Mrs. M. Tridell of 663 West Monroe street, says she frequently wrote the elder Munhall and asked him to aid his son, but the letters were never answered. His brothers have visited him and tried to bring about a reconciliation but without success.

Large Discrepancies.

New York, October 9.—Controller Fitch's expert accountants who have been at work investigating the records and accounts in Brooklyn preparatory to consolidation have found discrepancies in accounts amounting to \$5,000,000.

Officials of Brooklyn deny that there is or has been any malfeasance, and allege that the discrepancies reported by Controller Fitch's experts are due in large part to the defective system of bookkeeping followed in the towns which were recently annexed to Brooklyn.

England and Egypt.

London, October 9.—The Paris correspondent of the Times, referring this morning to the statement of the Figaro that the powers have agreed to collectively ask England to evacuate Egypt, says:

"No power has been approached on the subject of Egypt for a long time. France tried to get Russia to support her but only received Russia's earnest advice to do nothing with regard to Egypt beyond diplomatic negotiations."

Few people think that Dunham will ever be found, but many people know that the Lincoln Boquet Havana can be found at Allego & Co's who are also district agents for these goods.

Last night of the County Fair. Cake walk and fancy dancing.

Brohaska's orchestra. Both phones.

LEUTGERT MAD.

Says He Is Persecuted by the Police.

HIS SERVANT GIRL COWED.

The Trouble in Dutch Guiana—Return Home of General Miles—Confession of a Murderer.

Special to the Evening News.

Chicago, October 9.—Leutgert this morning discussed the case which the prosecution had made out against him. He declares that he is the victim of police persecution, and is very bitter in denunciation of the officers and of Professor Corsey.

He declares that the police have treated Mary Simmering shamefully; that they have persecuted and cowed her.

The State attorney and his associates are busy today getting the argument ready to be submitted next week. Leutgert's attorneys are similarly engaged.

There was no session today as Judge Tuttle has gone to Nashville.

Robbed and Killed.

Spokane, Wash., October 9.—John Edwards, James Clark and Martin Harriety are under arrest for a murder committed ten days ago, near Glasgow, Mont. Two men were stealing a ride in a box car when five others entered the car, and after robbing them ordered them to jump from the train. While they were hesitating the robbers opened fire. One of the men was shot in the back and died a few hours later.

The police here are confident that they have three of the murderers. They also think that they are the same men who recently murdered a man near Billings, N. D.

Murderer's Confession.

Rotterdam, Holland, October 9.—A man named Gustave Mueller has surrendered to the city police confessing the murder of his wife and child. As proof of the truth of his confession he produced from his pocket four human ears. The police, on searching his house, found the two bodies.

Mueller subsequently confessed that he had also killed his parents, mutilating their remains in the same fashion, and then he made the astonishing statement that he had similarly disposed of fourteen wives whom he married in various parts of the world.

Rotterdam, October 9.—Gustave Mueller, the wholesale murderer, is trying to starve himself to death. He has eaten nothing for five days and continues to refuse food.

Home From Europe.

New York, October 9.—Major-General Nelson A. Miles arrived here last night on the American liner St. Louis from Southampton.

Harris Taylor, until recently United States Minister to Spain, also came by the steamer St. Louis. He refused to have anything to say about our relations with Spain on account of the Cuban war.

Among the passengers on the St. Louis were Charles T. Yerkes, Bishop W. W. Perrin of British Columbia, Senator Callom of Illinois and James C. Carter.

Dutch Guiana Trouble.

New York, October 9.—According to special advices received by the Herald's correspondent in Rio Janeiro from the Department of the Amazon, there was a serious conflict September 22d in Calcutta, Dutch Guiana, between British and Netherlands troops and the inhabitants of the town. Reports received are to the effect that a party of British invaded Calcutta and set fire to forty-five houses in the town. Details of the affair have not yet been received.

To Look for Alaska Gold.

Helena Mont., October 9.—Articles of incorporation of the Klondike-Yucon Copper River Mining Company have been filed here by Chicago, St. Louis and Minneapolis capitalists. The capital stock is \$12,000,000. As its name indicates the company is formed for the purpose of mining in Alaska. The shares are of a par value of \$10 each. The main offices are to be located in Helena.

REFORMS IN CUBA.

Washington, October 9.—President McKinley and the Cabinet discussed the Cuban question this morning. The consensus of opinion was that the Sagasta ministry should invite reforms in Cuba without action of the Cortes which does not meet until March.

Schofield Murder.

The trial of Mrs. Sarah Schofield and Dan Dutcher on the charge of murdering the former's husband, George W. Schofield, is set to be called next Monday morning in Judge Lorigan's court.

Remember as if you want bargains in household and kitchen utensils, tin ware, crockery, glassware or groceries.

We sell fresh, up-to-date goods at prices less than you can get old shop-worn stock at "forced sales" for.

SAN JOSE GROCERY CO

MISCELLANEOUS

MURPHY.

THE NEW BUSINESS CENTER OF THE GREAT WEST SIDE.

ACREAGE LOTS. RESIDENCE LOTS. BUSINESS LOTS.

A few 10-acre tracts near town, \$150 per acre. Eight miles from San Jose; eight miles from Stanford. Main line of the Southern Pacific, 24 passenger trains daily. California Winemakers' Corporation warehouse, 125x150, and a large general store now building. Other lines of business soon to follow.

CROSSMAN ORVIS & CO

SOLE AGENTS..... 42 E. SANTA CLARA ST.

FREE
FREE

STORMER

... BICYCLE

GIVEN FREE WITH

American's Best
Teas, Coffees,
Spices

GREAT EASTERN TEA CO.,

125 SOUTH FIRST STREET. TEL. 250

FREE WHEELS To Boys

FREE WHEELS To Girls

WHEELS REAL EASY TO GET.

WANTED, RIGHT NOW!

\$1,000 Worth of Second-Hand

Furniture and Books.

Highest cash value paid. If you have furniture to sell, or if you want to buy, you will make money by seeing Norris, the Cabinet Maker. Always reliable. Door screens, window screens, wardrobes, book cases and all kinds of cabinet work to order at hard-time prices. Four years in San Jose. B. F. NORRIS, 301 S. First corner San Salvador. Phone Sunset Red 15. Peoples ad.

IF YOU CAN'T APPRECIATE A GOOD thing then don't take the Evening News. It is an intelligent paper for intelligent people.

SAN JOSE WOOLEN MILLS

ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR

MEN'S BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S

READY MADE

ALSO CARRY FULL ASSORTMENT OF

Blankets, Flannel Overshirts, Underwear, Robes

SUITS

MADE TO ORDER IN THE LATEST STYLE AND A PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED.

SALESROOM located at the Mill, corner of San Pedro and Hobson Sts. Open until 6 p. m.

Whips! Whips!

AT THE

Great Removal Sale

ALL REDUCED. SEE OUR WINDOW.

HOME UNION

TELEPHONES. SUNSET RED 131. PEOPLES 561.

L. S. CAVALLARO

PEOPLES TEL. 203; SUNSET TEL. 1123 RED.

DEALER IN

STAPLE and FANCY

GROCERIES

AGENT FOR

GLEN ELLEN WINE VAULT.

N. E. COR. MARKET AND EL DORADO STREETS - - - SAN JOSE

Elegant
Millinery

WONDER MILLINERY STORE

Has been the most successful of any since the opening of the old and well established house.

Ladies who trade at the Wonder always get the first in quality and style at reasonable prices.

More new and stylish goods just opened.

... CHARLES M. SPENCER ...

MISCELLANEOUS.

CENTRAL LOCATIONS

House and lot on Orchard near San Carlos street, 50x147 1/2 feet \$2000

House and lot on San Carlos street, near Orchard street, 50x125 feet, fine cottage 5 rooms..... \$2100

Lots—\$300-\$300—Lots

Fine lots in the Goodyear Tract, Good neighborhood—Terms to suit.

Cottage on Park avenue—central location, fine place..... \$1800

JAMES A. CLAYTON & Co.
30 W. SANTA CLARA STREET.

CLEVELAND BICYCLES

The celebrated wheel will suit you. They ride easy. Give me any trouble.

'96 CLEVELAND

\$50

Good second-hand wheels very cheap. If you want a wheel call and see me first.

E. H. Wemple, Agent.

20 N. SECOND STREET.

REAR

Lot for building. In fine location at Bull's head. Belongs to non-resident—must be sold.

Second near Hensley

Price only \$1100

In Second Ward

WOOSTER & WHITTON

17 W. Santa Clara St.

REAR

High Art in Millinery

Full new line of ladies and children's hats, trimmings and feathers, now open at the new millinery parlors.

VOL. XXXII.

SAN JOSE CAL., MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1897.

No. 95

ONLY GOSSIP.

No Truth in the Story of the Winchester Place.

THE RESULT OF RURAL RUMORS

Mrs. Winchester Is Not Superstitious—Explanation of an Acquaintance.

The construction of the Winchester residence near Campbell which has given rise to rumors in the neighborhood that there was some reason for the continued additions to the residence. About two years ago a San Francisco paper published a long story about the building of additions to the structure, and it was said that according to current rumor the owner of the premises was superstitious, and that she had an idea that with the completion of the house her death would ensue; that that was the reason of the continued additions to the place.

Last week a representative of a San Francisco morning paper was in San Jose with instructions to again write up the story as it was known that the building was still going on. The truth of the story, as published in the Evening News on Saturday, and which is a common rumor in the neighborhood, and has been since the publication of the story a year or so ago in a San Francisco paper, is emphatically denied by friends of Mrs. Winchester. A close friend of the lady said to a reporter for the Evening News today:

"The story about Mrs. Winchester being superstitious, and believing that she is going to die when the house, or rather all additions are completed, is all nonsense. She is not superstitious, but is an unusually sensible woman. She has erected a magnificent house. She has made many improvements on the first plans. It may be that building is a fad with her, and if it is, she is able to satisfy it, for she is a woman of ample means."

"We are constantly inviting people of wealth to locate in Santa Clara valley. Mrs. Winchester is one of the most desirable settlers we have ever had. If people who come here with fortunes and are inclined to spend it, I do not think it is wise to circulate reports that they are 'cranks' merely because they do not get 'tick' with the neighbors; run in and borrow a cup of sugar or a roll of butter; discuss the neighborhood gossip over the back fence, or indulge in other habits which will satisfy the rural inhabitant."

"I notice in all these stories about Mrs. Winchester's alleged remarkable structure, that she is mentioned as the widow of the inventor of the world-famed Winchester rifle. This is an error. She is no relation to that family. Mrs. Winchester is a lady of refinement and culture. As I said before she is not the superstitious person represented in these stories growing out of neighborhood gossip. She has wealth to satisfy most any whim or fancy. If she wants to build a castle on her premises near Campbell, she should be permitted to do so without ascribing her motives to foolish superstitions."

"If people of wealth who settle in Santa Clara county are to be ridiculed when they spend their money lavishly, we might as well put up the bars. Mrs. Winchester will probably not make any denial of these neighborhood yarns, but I hope that there will be no more publications about the improvements at the Winchester home being the result of superstition, or any such nonsense."

"After a while the lady might not want to have a nail driven about the place for fear that some one would run off to a newspaper with a cock-and-bull story. This would be the means of preventing the circulation of a large amount of money among builders and furnishers and that is why we encourage people of wealth to locate in Santa Clara valley. We want industries developed, improvements made and the valley beautified."

Butter is Not Up.

Don't pay two prices for your butter when you can get good Fisher Lake creamery butter for 45c per roll, and choice Eastern creamery at 25c per pound. My supply is coming in very fast, and I must sell it so as to keep it fresh. Call and convince yourself it's no humbug.

J. A. BELLONI,
Corner third and San Fernando.

A Big Eagle.
Joe Zing while out hunting yesterday killed an eagle on the Bailey ranch near Almaden, which measured seven feet from the tip of one wing to the other. He is having the bird mounted.

Trays! Lumber! Glenwood Co. Cheap.

\$2000.00

25 cent or 30 cent baking powders are made to satisfy the demand of people who think "anything will do."

Schilling's Best is cheaper than such baking powder in every way.

A Schilling & Company
San Francisco

THE FAIR CLOSED.

The fair is over and Milt Johnson is the champion cake walker of the coast. Added to this illustrious event is the fact that Gussie Tally has been awarded the first prize as a pie-eater in a contest over his brother Arthur who is older and bigger than Gussie. This contest and the cake walk were the principal attractions besides the exhibits at the fair Saturday night.

Another big crowd assembled at the fair on the last night and after an hour of promenade and inspection of the exhibits, the audience found seats in the gallery to witness the stage exhibits which also included some nice tancy dancing by Miss Birdie Simmons.

The Board of Trade and the public consider that the fair was the best yet given, from every point of view.

FIT IN CHURCH.

Neal Barnes, who lives on Marlboro street fell in a fit this morning in St. Joseph's Church during services. He was removed to the yard and there it required a number of men to restrain him until the police arrived and took him home in the patrol wagon. He is a subject to such spells which sometimes are quite severe.

FINGER SHOT OFF.

A young son of Police Officer James Monahan accidentally shot off the tip of his left index finger a few days ago, with his father's pistol. Mr. Monahan is lying home sick and the pistol, not being in use, appeared to be a good thing for the young man to inspect. The result was serious.

FOUND GOLD.

Two San Joseans Strike it Rich in Trinity County.

Several weeks ago Harry Harper and J. C. Lennox of this city started on a gold-hunting tour of Trinity county. About the time they started reports were coming in that the gold craze in Trinity was a false alarm and that nearly every prospector who had gone there had met with disappointment.

It appears from a letter received in this city today by relatives of Harper, that he and his associate are different from the rest, as they write that they have found indications of gold; have sunk a shaft and have commenced to take out the yellow metal, a few samples of which accompanied the letter.

Mr. Harper writes that they are much encouraged at the outlook and expect to take out a fortune. Their claim is located in Gold Gulch.

French candy, extra fine, Radolph's!

Carnival of Holidays.

The ladies in charge of the various departments of work in connection with the Carnival of Holidays to be given by the Catholic Ladies' Aid Society, have been appointed as follows:

President and Manager, Mrs. B. D. Murphy; Advertising Committee, Mrs. W. B. Hill and Mrs. C. Brake; Hall Committee, Mrs. L. Callisch, Mrs. F. Brassy; Ticket Committee, Mrs. Louise Auzeais, Mrs. G. A. Miller, Mrs. G. W. Delaney, Mrs. J. H. Campbell; Decoration Committee, Mrs. M. Carey, Mrs. W. B. Hobson, Mrs. J. Holly, Mrs. L. M. Pinar, Mrs. A. Normandin, Mrs. F. Gerlach, Mrs. F. Blackman; Refreshment Committee, Mrs. M. Hogan, Mrs. V. Cahape, Mrs. J. Conmy, Mrs. M. Kell, Mrs. J. B. Carey, Mrs. M. Carey, Mrs. M. O'Brien.

All those in charge of the various booths are industriously at work on their plans of decorations and programs.

Fifty Runs Made.

A game of baseball was played yesterday on the Normal grounds in which the score was 42 to 8. Runs were as free as they could be. The Electric was the winners and the defeated team is so ashamed of the game that no name is claimed.

MEN'S UNDERWEAR.

DO YOU WEAR WOOL?

Do You Want Good Underwear at the Lowest Prices?

We are offering as a special inducement an all-wool underwear for 50c a garment. Money refunded if not as represented.

S. E. SMITH, 10 South First Street.

Disguised as Business.

E. T. Kingsley addressed the San Jose Socialist Union last evening at G. A. R. Hall. He claimed in his address that the people were being continually plundered by the capitalists under the guise of business. He quoted statistics showing that one percent of the families of the United States owned over fifty-two percent of the entire wealth, and that for all the other people there was left only \$150 for each man.

Shoulder Dislocated.

M. Bishadi, a rancher who resides near Santa Clara was knocked down by a hack at the corner of Santa Clara and First streets last evening and a shoulder dislocated. He was attended by Dr. Seifer and then removed to his home.

Few people think that Dunham will ever be found, but many people know that the Lincoln Boquet Havana can be found at Allegri & Co's who are also district agents for these goods.

Brohaeka's orchestra. Both phones.

CALLED BACK.

Weyler is Directed to Leave Havana at Once.

RIGOROUS WARFARE ABANDONED

Fighting Near Khyber Pass -- Expedition to the South Pole. Insurrection in Turkey.

Special to the Evening News.

Madrid, October 11.—Minister of War has called Weyler to embark from Havana for Madrid immediately.

Weyler was further instructed to turn command over to Marquis Alameda or General Lineros.

All high civil officials and principal lieutenants of Weyler will be replaced promptly.

The Government also telegraphed orders to cease all rigorous methods of warfare hitherto practiced.

Washington, October 11.—It has been decided at the Navy Department that the Atlantic squadron will not be called to the Gulf at present. This course was taken in order that no suspicion will arise that America is trying to interfere in Cuban matters.

May Connect With Valley Road.

Los Angeles, October 11.—E. P. Ripley president of the Santa Fe system, accompanied by Paul Morton, third vice-president, James Dun, chief engineer, and W. A. Bissell, assistant freight traffic manager, arrived in a special car from Chicago. While the object of their visit is not definitely known, it is reported from a semi-official source that it may be in reference to the building of a new line through Tejon pass to connect with the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railroad, which is nearly completed at Bakersfield.

Diamond Thief Caught.

Paris, October 11.—A dispatch from Havre says that on the arrival of the steamship La Champagne the police, acting under instructions from New York, took into custody Henry Pallissieux on the charge of complicity in the robbery of diamond jewelry, the property of Miss Susan de Forest Day, owner of the steam yacht Seythian.

Turkey Has an Insurrection.

Constantinople, October 11.—It is rumored here that there has been a general insurrection in the provinces of the Pashalik of Bagdad, Asiatic Turkey, and troops have been sent to suppress the insurrection.

Accused of Killing His Wife.

Canton, O., October 11.—William Depyster, a well-known character, is under arrest for the murder of his wife. She ran out of their home wrapped in flames, her clothing being saturated in oil from a lamp.

Going to the South Pole.

London, October 11.—A dispatch to the Daily Chronicle from Christiania says that the commercial and scientific expedition to be undertaken for south polar exploration, under the conduct of Dr. Borchgrevink, the Arctic explorer, will start from England next July.

Fighting Again.

Simla, October 11.—A dispatch from Jaipur, near the entrance to the Khyber pass says that the hostile tribesmen have been active there and have fired on a patrol of dragoons, killing Captain Jones, a British officer and one private.

Vessel in Distress.

St. John's, N. F., October 11.—The severest storm known for years has been raging here. An unknown barkentine was sighted on the port flying distress signals and the British war ship Pelican sailed to her assistance.

OFF THE TRACK.

Des Moines, Ia., October 11.—An electric car jumped the track two miles from Waterloo this morning, going down an embankment.

There were fourteen passengers on board, all of whom were shaken up. Three or four were badly hurt.

W. H. Morton, a traveling man, was rendered unconscious, and his injuries have been pronounced fatal.

EX-QUEEN ILL.

Washington, October 11.—The ex-Queen of Hawaii is reported to be seriously ill at the Ebbett House, with symptoms of pneumonia, and her condition is regarded as serious.

REBELS ROUTED.

New York, October 11.—A dispatch from Guatemala says that the rebels were

SPRING VALLEY MEAT MARKET

WE KILL EVERY BIT OF OUR MEAT UNDER OUR OWN PERSONAL SUPERVISION.

White beef is high and going higher we are still going to give the public the benefit of lowest rates on roll roasts, legs of mutton and on Saturday we will have choice spare ribs, leaf lard, pork roasts, etc.

SPRING VALLEY MEAT MARKET
199 SOUTH FIRST. BOTH PHONES

defeated by the Government forces at San Marcos, and that they fled into Mexico, closely pursued.

The Mexican government is taking measures to keep the bases of operations from being transferred to its territory.

FROZEN TO DEATH.

St. Petersburg, October 11.—During the ascent of Mount Ararat, by members of the Geographical Congress, Dr. Stover, professor of medicine was frozen to death.

City Health Board.

Dr. Simpson, Secretary of the City Board of Health and his assistant are to be provided with badges in order to facilitate the progress of their work. This was decided at the monthly meeting of the board at which Dr. Hablutzel, County Physician for San Jose, reported having prepared 408 prescriptions in September and made 57 calls on county cases.

Veterinary Inspector Spencer made his report as did Plumbing Inspector Corcoran.

According to the Secretary's report there were 34 births and 45 deaths in September. One case of scarletina and one of diphtheria had been reported and kept under control.

As soon as all physicians have time to register with the Secretary, no burial permits will be issued unless on a registered physician's certificate.

Charge Denied.

Mrs. Mary E. Nowhall, widow of the late Sylvester Nowhall, has filed an answer to the contest of the will of her deceased husband, inaugurated by George Dunn and Bell Newhall, two of the children of the deceased. Mrs. Newhall denies the alleged undue influence over the testator charged to her. Morehouse & Hamblin & F. E. Spencer are her attorneys.

BROKE A RECORD.

The largest week of shipments East ever recorded from this city, was the one just past. The total amount of shipments was 9,010,140 pounds. The different articles were as follows:

Canned goods, 1,241,250; green fruit, 1,50,430; dried prunes, 5,017,040; dried peaches, 215,890; dried apricots, 380,240; dried pears, 22,560; dried plums, 69,460; wine, 30,990; seed, 38,970; leather, 5,410; wool, 10,980; asphaltum, 30,000; quinine, 32,400.

MONEY IS DEPOSITED.

John E. Auzerais, cashier of the State Deposit Bank of Savings today filed a certificate in the County Clerk's office to the effect that the bank had received on deposit \$100 each for Fay Butler Jr., Panzy Butler, Carl M. Stelling and John M. Stelling to be paid to them when they reach the age of 21 years. The money is deposited by C. M. Merlan as executor of the will of Emma Merlan who made the bequests.

Personal.

Howard A. Alexander and Clemente Arques left today on a two weeks' hunting trip on the Santa Margarita ranch, San Luis Obispo county.

Dr. Wallace E. Parkinson who has been confined to his home for the past week on account of illness is able to be out again.

You may have a headache next week. Get a free sample of A B C Headache Checker at Munson's. Free for a week. Absolutely harmless.

HOTEL BURNED.

French Lick, Ind., October 11.—The Windsor Hotel, the leading hotel of this city, was destroyed by fire this morning. The loss is \$40,000. No casualties are reported.

HIS OLD GAME.

Arthur Arlington, an old man and an ex-cavalier, who carried on an exciting career here about two years ago in introducing himself to a number of women as a wealthy widower, and borrowing all the money he could from them, paid San Jose a visit again about two months ago and practiced the game of borrowing from ladies where he would pretend to be seeking a room for lodging.

One of Arlington's victims is Mrs. E. F. Smith, whom he succeeded in getting \$2 from. He was arrested in Oakland and is now in jail here where he will answer for his offense.

Arlington's trial was set today for October 15 by Justice Gass and bail fixed at \$100.

WELCOME RAIN.

Chicago, October 11.—Rain is falling throughout Chicago, and the warm belt of the western States and the drought is at last broken.

Something Geometrical.—"Biggins is a great fisherman, isn't he?"
"Yes."
"Seems a little obtuse on other subjects."
"Yes he's an obtuse angler."

Making Both Ends Meet.—The sand which makes both ends meet by making both ends bread, and putting the meat in the middle.—Somerville Journal.

No excuse for a headache now! Free sample A B C Headache Checker at Munson's, 16 South First. Absolutely harmless.

Dr. Hill of Manchester, Ky., a man of 70, rode in a pacing race the other day, and won it.

A prisoner in the jail in Queen's County, N. Y., named Henry Hildebrand, is starving himself.

SUDDEN END.

Missing Witnesses in the Trial This Morning.

ARGUMENT THIS AFTERNOON.

Thieves Make a Rich Haul -- A New York Detective Charged With Murder -- Rebels Defeated.

Special to the Evening News.

Chicago, October 11.—Lentger's trial came to a sudden and unexpected close today. Witnesses whom defense called for failed to appear when their names were called.

Finally ex-Judge Vincent announced to the court that the case of the defendant was all in.

After a brief consultation by the counsel it was agreed to begin argument to the jury this afternoon. The case will probably go to the jury next Saturday night.

A letter addressed to the chief of police and purporting to have been written by Mrs. Lentger, was received today. It was dated October 9th and was postmarked New York. No attention will be paid to it by the police.

AN OFFICER'S CRIME.

A Detective Accused of Wife-Murder in New York.

New York, October 11.—Central Office Detective William Moore, who is under arrest on suspicion of having stabbed his wife to death on Wednesday, was committed to the city jail.

The most damaging evidence against the detective was given by a neighbor, who said she heard Moore in the house on the afternoon of the tragedy.

Two boys also say that between 12 and 1 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon they saw the detective leaving the house.

Moore denies that he killed his wife, and says that he was in the West-street district all day Wednesday until 3 o'clock, when he got word from the police headquarters that there was something wrong at his home, and then he went up town and found his wife dead.

The effort to suppress the fact that his wife had died from a stab wound in the abdomen, and the burning of the murdered woman's clothing at the time of her death, all tend against Moore.

Rebels Defeated.

New York, October 11.—The Herald's Guatemala City cable says: Reports from the front state that the rebels near San Marcos have been defeated and driven into Mexico. It is officially announced that the Mexican Government is sending forces to the frontier to prevent the rebels from forming a base of operations in Mexican territory.

General Solares, Minister of War in the Barros Cabinet, has gone to the front to personally direct the operations against the rebels.

Thieves Get Rich Loot.

New York, October 11.—The home of Francis H. Scott, president of the Century Magazine Company, in Orange, N. J., was entered by thieves and articles of wearing apparel and household goods, amounting to \$10,000 in value, were carried off. The police of this city have arrested three persons in connection with the crime and recovered most of the property.

Locusts in Uruguay.

London, October 11.—A dispatch to the Times from Montevideo says that the locusts have reappeared in the north and west of Uruguay.

DURRANT'S CASE.

Washington, October 11.—The autumn session of the Supreme Court opened today with a smaller docket than for many years past.

The court will be asked to fix a time for arguments on the appeal of Durrant. The papers in the case have already been filed. Possibly the court may decide that it has no jurisdiction.

KILLED BY A MOB.

Brenham, Texas, October 11.—Bob Carter, who killed James Burch, in a saloon last night, and who surrendered himself, was found riddled with bullets in an open shaft, a hundred yards back of the jail. An unknown mob had pursued and killed him.

A MISSING MAN.

Fresno, October 11.—The police believe that Lorenzo Lascano, the wealthy sheep man, who disappeared about two months ago has been murdered.

Cheap Lumber.
See Santa Clara Valley Mill and Lumber Company for low prices.

Headache cured! Free sample at Munson's, one week. Absolutely harmless.

Our Acme oil at 75c for a 5-gallon can and Acme gasoline at 80c for a 5-gallon can are great value. Money back if not satisfied. 10c rebate allowance for empty Acme cans. This week's special bargain is 20 big candles for 25c.

SAN JOSE GROCERY CO

MISCELLANEOUS

MURPHY..

THE NEW BUSINESS CENTER OF THE GREAT WEST SIDE.

ACREAGE LOTS. RESIDENCE LOTS. BUSINESS LOTS.

A few 10-acre tracts near town, \$150 per acre. Eight miles from San Jose; eight miles from Stanford. Main line of the Southern Pacific; 24 passenger trains daily. California Winemakers' Corporation warehouse, 12x150, and a large general store now building. Other lines of business soon to follow.

CROSSMAN ORVIS & CO

SOLE AGENTS..... 42 E. SANTA CLARA ST.

Lovers

OF

Fine

China

You are cordially invited to

call and inspect our

NEW STOCK

OF

Limoges, Carlsbad

and Bohemian China

LATEST SHAPES

NEWEST DECORATIONS.

GREAT EASTERN TEA CO.,

128 SOUTH FIRST. TEL. 296.

WANTED, RIGHT NOW!

\$1,000 Worth of Second-Hand

Furniture and Books.

Highest cash value paid. If you have furniture to sell, or if you want to buy, you will make money by seeing Norris, the Cabinet Maker. Always reliable. Door screens, window screens, wardrobes, book cases, and all time pieces. Four years in San Jose. B. F. NORRIS, 40 S. First, corner San Salvador. Phone 100. See us on Monday 9-5.

IF YOU CAN'T APPRECIATE A GOOD thing then don't take the Evening News. It is an intelligent paper for intelligent people.

SAN JOSE WOOLEN MILLS

ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR

MEN'S BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S

READY MADE

ALSO CARRY FULL ASSORTMENT OF

Blankets, Flannel Overshirts, Underwear, Robes

SUITS

MADE TO ORDER IN THE LATEST STYLE AND A

PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED.

SALESROOM located at the Mill, corner of

San Pedro and Hobson Sts. Open until 6 p. m.

Whips! Whips!

AT THE

Great Removal Sale

ALL REDUCED. SEE OUR WINDOW.

HOME UNION

TELEPHONES, SUNSET RED 101. PEOPLES 564.

L. S. CAVALLARO

PEOPLES TEL. 28; SUNSET TEL. 123 RED.

STAPLE and FANCY

GROCERIES ..

AGENT FOR

GLEN ELLEN WINE VAULT.

N. E. COR. MARKET AND EL DORADO STREETS - - - SAN JOSE

Elegant

Millinery

THE FALL OPENING OF THE

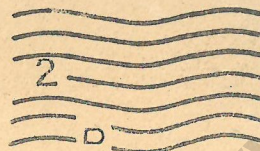
Wonder Millinery Store

Has been the most successful of any since the opening of the old and well established house.

Ladies who trade at the Wonder always get the first in quality and style at reasonable prices.

More new and stylish goods just opened.

The Directors of the
General Hospital Society of Connecticut
have the honor to request your presence at the
Dedication Services of the
William Wirt Winchester Hospital
for Tuberculosis
at Allington Heights, West Haven, Connecticut
on Saturday, May fourth, at three o'clock



Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Hansen,
c/o Mrs. S. L. Winchester,
San Jose, California.

In memory of
William Wirt Winchester
This annex of the New Haven
Hospital, to be used for
The care of persons
suffering from Tuberculosis
was erected and endowed
by his wife

Dedicated - May 4 1918

In the hands of the
Government at present
Given 2½ Million Dollars
Money which was left by Gov. W.
and received after Mr. W. died.
Mr. S. L. W. wished to put this
money to some good use and help
suffering humanity. The first dona-
tion was \$500,000

Winchester Home Sold; The House Upon Which Thousands Spent Held Almost Valueless

1923
T. S. Barnett of the firm of Barnett and Phelps was the highest bidder in the probate court today for the house and land left by Mrs. Sarah Winchester. Barnett filed a bid of \$135,531.50, which was the highest of nine bids received by the court.

It is expected that the probate court will confirm the sale of this well known realty to Barnett within the next week or so. The property will not be subdivided in the sense that real estate men use the

word. In other words it will not be thrown on the market in small lots. Barnett's clients want the property for their own use.

There are 161 acres in the Winchester estate. So Barnett's clients will pay approximately \$840 an acre. There is a considerable quantity of fruit on the estate.

House Valueless

This will interest the readers. The house which Mrs. Winchester spent the best part of her life building was

appraised by the appraisers to do this work at practically nothing and Mrs. Winchester spent thousands and thousands of dollars adding on rooms and making improvements. The house is as "roomy" as the average hotel. The appraisers appraised the improvements, including pumping plant, barns, house and everything, at \$5000. As the pumping plant alone is worth nearly this amount, the house valuation amounts to almost nothing.

REAL ESTATE

**BARNETT
AND
PHELPS.**

INSURANCE

AGENTS
THE LONDON & LANCASHIRE
INSURANCE CO., LTD.

5 & 7 NORTH FIRST STREET
TELEPHONE 284

SAN JOSE, CAL.,

Nov. 14, 1922.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.

93.27 Acres at the Southeast corner and 68.649 acres
at the Southwest corner of Stevens Creek road and the Los
Gatos-San Jose road in Santa Clara County, California.
Bids may be made for the two tracts as a whole, or for
either or both tracts separately. Address bids to Union
Trust Company of San Francisco, executor of the last will
of Sarah L. Winchester, deceased and hand or mail same to
Leib & Leib, 512 First National Bank Bldg., San Jose,
California.

1923
THE COU

**Winchester Estate
Worth \$2,916,081**

The appraiser, Frank Towner, appointed by Judge Gosbey some time ago to appraise the estate of the late Sarah L. Winchester, filed his report yesterday in the probate court and after enumerating the extensive holdings of Mrs. Winchester, places the fair market value of the property of the estate at the sum of \$2,916,291.80. It is composed of stocks, bonds, cash on deposit and real estate. According to the report the total amount of the inheritance tax due to the state of California is \$419,081.64 and if the tax is not paid before March 5, 1924, interest at the rate of 10 per cent will be charged from the date of Mrs. Winchester's death.

**Local Realtor Makes Bid
for Winchester Estate**

A bid for \$135,531.50 for the famous "Winchester Place" was filed yesterday with the Union Trust Co. of San Francisco, executors of the estate of the late Sarah L. Winchester, by T. C. Barnett, acting for clients, and the matter will come before the probate court in two weeks for confirmation. Nine bids were filed with the Trust company, that of Mr. Barnett being the highest received.

The estate consists of the big home of Mrs. Winchester, pumping plant, barns, outbuildings, and 161 acres of land, much of it set out in fruit. The garden is filled with rare and beautiful flowers, shrubs and ornamental trees, many of them imported by Mrs. Winchester during her lifetime at great expense.

It is understood that if the court confirms the sale of the property to Mr. Barnett, the land will be retained by his clients for their own use.

\$5,000,000 Spookhouse

**STAIRS LEADING TO NOWHERE.
WINDOWS OPENING ON NOTHING,
BATHROOMS WITH GLASS
DOORS—THAT'S THE SAN JOSE
GHOST HOUSE. WHY WAS IT
BUILT? WHAT WENT ON THERE?**

BY BOB MCLEAN

A MAD jumble of domes, cupolas, towers, and minarets. A spook's barroom, cocktail lounge, dance floor, and banquet hall in which only spectral guests were sumptuously wine and dined for more than 30 years! This is the amazing structure of 160 rooms built as a retreat for ghosts by the late Sarah L. Winchester, widow of the arms manufacturer.

Four miles from the city of San Jose, California, Winchester House sprawls in fantastic disorder over six acres of land. It contains rooms built one within the other, stairways ending in mid-air, doors which open to the outside from the second and third stories but without any means of descent to the ground except that provided by the law of gravity. Spook chambers, seance rooms—every possible bit of ghostly claptrap, plus an intangible but potent atmosphere of creepy horror!

A place of dread mystery to every passer-by during Mrs. Winchester's lifetime, the grotesque mansion, since her death in 1922, has been thrown open to public view. In the same manner in which many a spook-infested Old World castle is exhibited to American tourists by the family seneschal,

the Winchester house is now being shown to tourists by a professional guide.

Visitors clutch each other's hands as they walk close behind the guide through trap doors which close behind them with a muffled thud and along dusty, whispering, secret passageways, past spirit chambers, staircases with 13 steps which lead nowhere, and concealed cupboards, opal-studded windowpanes, gold and silver chandeliers, and other costly but needless appurtenances of the \$5,000,000 ghost mansion.

WHY did Sarah Winchester construct this architectural monstrosity?

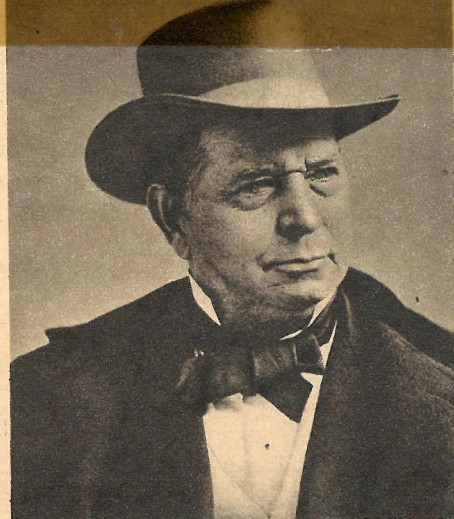
Almost as many theories prevail in answer to this question as there are panes of glass in her house—and there are 150,000 of those. The most popular belief is that Mrs. Winchester was tormented by the spirits of victims of Winchester rifles, who, seeking a recompense of labor for the sins of her husband's death-dealing weapons, ordered Sarah Winchester to build them a house. Since there were thousands—perhaps millions—of homeless ghosts, the spook hostelry would, of course, have to be a large one. Further to insure completion of the job and provide them all with a home, the spirits, some persons say, threatened her with instant death should she ever cease her labors. Why the lonely, widowed recluse should have feared death is as great a mystery as her mansion.

Whatever the reason, the work went on for 36 years, and it is still unfinished; it will never be finished. Without visitors, without any company except that of her servants and workmen, the strange old woman directed the construction of the nightmare edifice. A stooped, pale, gray-haired figure in dragging robes of funereal black, Mrs. Winchester, a veritable ghost herself, prowled through her ghostly mansion. The pounding of rain on the many separate roofs of her house, the thud of carpenters' hammers, and the cries of frightened new servants, most of whom remained only until the departure of the next train, vied with the spectral commands which rang only in Sarah Winchester's ears.

Coming to California after the death of her husband about 50 years ago, Sarah Winchester decided to settle near San Jose, paying a local physician a fabulous price for the original 17-room house. Her obsession at once became manifest. She employed a permanent crew of 16 carpenters and artisans, carefully hand-picked with regard to their willingness to obey her eccentric orders.

With an income of over \$1,000 a day, the widow was well able to pay princely salaries and to buy the best of materials—gold and silver leaf, exquisitely carved mahogany and bird's-eye maple, and heavily embossed wallpaper costing from \$10 to \$20 for a single roll. These were tossed about and handled as freely by the workmen as if they were of the very cheapest quality. Even today three large warehouses in San Jose hold enough surplus of these superlative supplies to continue the construction program for another 40 or 50 years.

GRADUALLY the original building assumed a new and fantastic shape. No



Oliver F. Winchester made millions out of the manufacturing of firearms. Was it to appease the shades of victims of his rifles that his widow built Winchester House, gave dances for invisible guests?

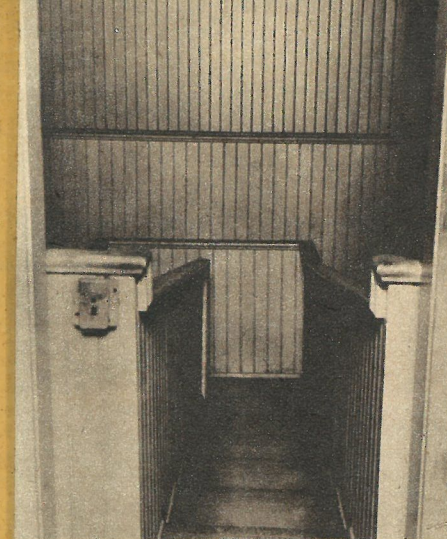
attempt whatever was made to adhere to any definite plan. Rooms were tacked on in every direction and even built one inside the other, much like Chinese puzzle boxes. The place is so honeycombed with secret passageways that new ones are discovered from time to time even now. Countless stairways without any apparent reason for being extend only from floor to ceiling of these rooms. One of them contains 45 steps and makes nine turns back and forth. It rises only nine feet!

Although Sarah Winchester was unable to retain a permanent staff of servants, her workmen were made of sterner stuff. At least two of them remained throughout the 36-year period of the widow's residence. Perhaps the workmen, having built the innards of the place themselves, were immune to its synthetic atmosphere of ghostly terror. Often three or four of them made a prodigious racket with their hammers, while the rest invaded one of the spook's sanctums for a session of poker or blackjack.

With the servants, however, it was an entirely different matter. The widow's startling appearances through the doors of the immense iceboxes with which the kitchens were equipped, and her frequent midnight visits to their own bedrooms, arriving by way of the clothes closets, threw them into paroxysms of terror. From the servants' viewpoint, another grievance was the bathrooms. In the immense pile there are 13 bathrooms fitted with all manner of gold-plated and silver-plated fixtures, but Sarah Winchester would allow them to be equipped only with clear glass doors!

Of the 47 fireplaces in the spirit mansion, at least half of them have no flues. Scattered helter-skelter about the place—off stairways, in bathrooms, and the like—they were built in the most unlikely spots, without any regard to the function of supplying heat. Carved mantels of piano wood, tile mosaic, and wrought-bronze andirons mask chimneys which lead only to the ceiling. Several times during Mrs. Winchester's regime, new servants built fires in these spurious hearths. The resulting near conflagrations, however, were quickly brought under control by the sturdy crew of workmen who doubled as firemen whenever necessary. The bong of an immense alarm bell in the watchtower summoned them from their various tasks, and the efficient fire brigade of carpenters, plumbers, and pipe fitters invariably conquered the flames.

Stocked with choicest wines and liquors, the spook's barroom occupied a large part of the main floor. An immense mahogany bar, complete with buffet, bronze footrail, and even gold-plated spittoons, contributed to the comfort of spectral guests. Although no visitor from the outside world ever sipped one of Sarah Winchester's highballs, the



Unlike many staircases in Winchester House which go nowhere, this one—with 45 steps and nine turns in a nine-foot ascent—leads to Mrs. W's White Satin Chamber, hub of many secret passageways

liquor disappeared with astonishing rapidity, and as she replenished the stock without question, many thousands of spirits (doubtless taking temporary abode in the bodies of the workmen) must have partaken of the widow's hospitality.

WHEN Mrs. Winchester first settled in her mansion, the local Four Hundred sought to exchange formal calls. But after several of these would-be visitors had been sent away with the curt message that the widow desired no human callers, they left her alone. No matter how wealthy or prominent the person, Mrs. Winchester was never at home. Local gossip has it that the late Mary Baker Eddy was the single exception to the ban. I have checked carefully on this rumor, however, and find that it has no foundation in fact.

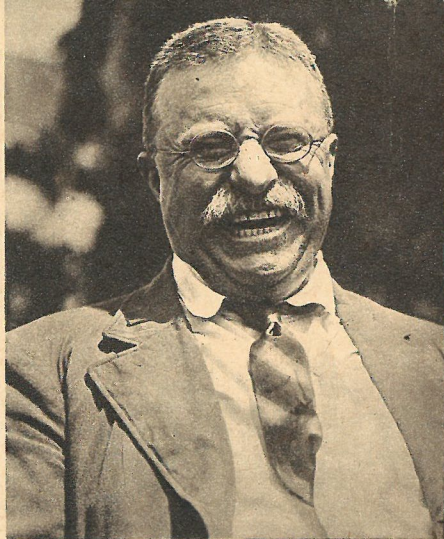
But it is a matter of historical record that when President Theodore Roosevelt sought to call on Sarah Winchester while he was on a tour of the Pacific Coast, he, like all others, was refused admittance. The widow must have inspired the ultimate in loyalty from her hard-boiled workmen, for they rallied round her and prepared to defy the President and all the armed forces of the nation. The President could take a hint, however, and so he saved everyone from an embarrassing incident by withdrawing with his party.

And so it was that in almost 36 years the front door of the Winchester house opened but once—and that was for Sarah Winchester to be borne out in her coffin.

ALOOF and eccentric to the extreme, Sarah Winchester was highly educated, fluent in several languages, and a patron of music, art, and literature. She anonymously contributed largely to national and local charities. Even now a number of people in and near San Jose are receiving lifetime incomes from her bounty.

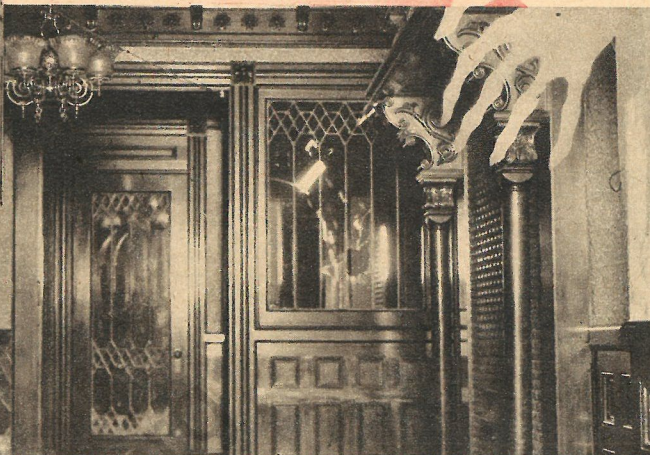
Although shrewd in all other matters, the mistress of the ghost mansion was extremely credulous in anything pertaining to Winchester House. Food enough to feed a regiment was delivered regularly at the tradesmen's entrance and carried into the immense kitchens which were equipped like those of the largest hotels in the country. In the belief that her spectral boarders consumed vast quantities of caviar, imported anchovies, canvasback ducks, and guava jelly, Mrs. Winchester paid the bills without question. Investigation has brought me to the belief, however, that Sarah Winchester wasn't entirely deluded by her strange obsession. She really wanted her workmen and servants to have the best of everything, and what mattered it if a host of local poor also shared in her generosity?

The woman's mania for seclusion was

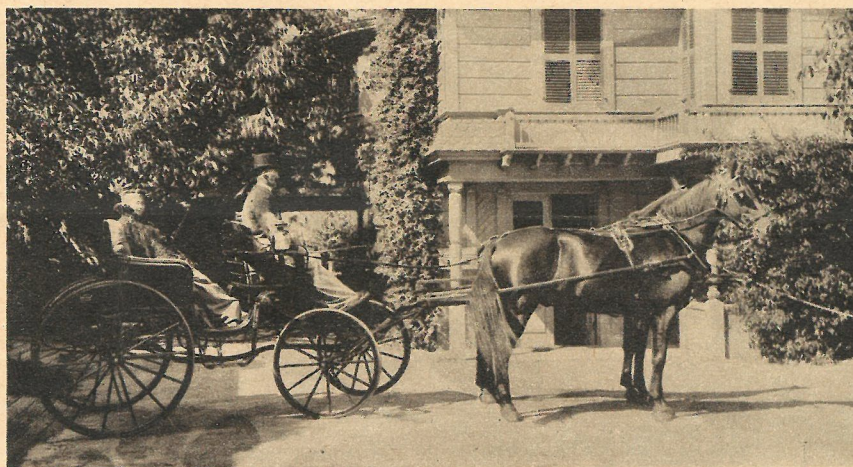


When President Teddy Roosevelt sought to visit Winchester House, the eccentric Mrs. W's loyal staff rallied round, prepared to defy United States Citizen No. 1

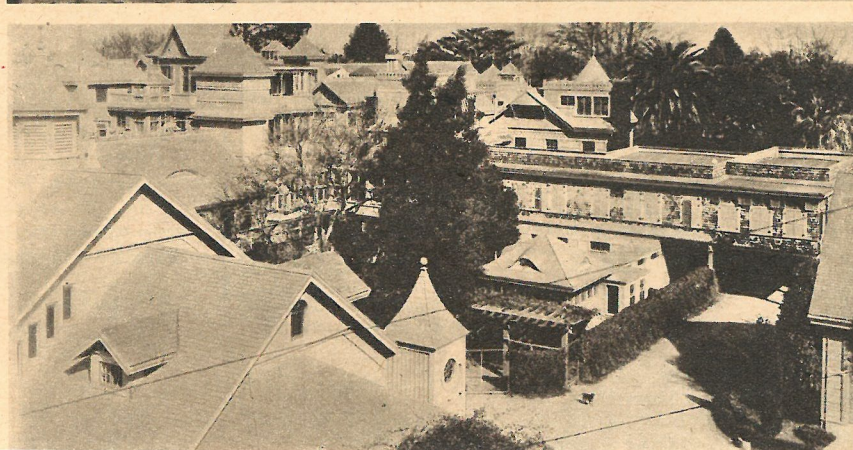
By standards of its day, Prism Hall, the foyer of Winchester House, was the last word in sparkling elegance, but through it no human visitors passed during the widow's residence



Not the least remarkable of the house's queer architectural details is this third-story sun porch with a skylight in the floor, fireplace, and double doors which open to the outside without any stairway up or down



This photo, one of the few ever taken of Mrs. Winchester, shows her starting for a drive in the San Jose countryside during the early days of her occupancy of Winchester House



With its bizarre assortment of cupolas, roofs, and spires, the mystery house sprawls over six acres. During 36 years of continuous construction, 143 rooms were added to the original 17

capitalized by her neighbors. Moved either by an aversion for the spook mansion or by a desire to sell their lands at a handsome profit, several persons living near the mystery house unloaded their properties on the widow for amounts far in excess of actual real-estate values. They managed this by holding noisy parties which so disturbed Sarah Winchester that she bought them out at their own prices.

Among the exceptionally bizarre features of this most extraordinary dwelling—perhaps the most extraordinary in the world—is the White Satin Chamber. It is so called because walls, ceiling, and floor are covered with that material. After it was built, no workman, servant, or anyone but Sarah Winchester herself ever entered the room. It was here that she held communion with the spirits. After locking herself in for three or four hours, the widow invariably appeared in some unexpected part of the house, to the consternation of the servants.

Electric light and gas plants, private waterworks system, and three elevators are other items of the spook castle's equipment. One of the elevators is powerful enough to serve the Empire State Building, yet it travels a vertical distance of exactly nine feet!

Off the reception hall is the spook's ballroom. Twenty by 40 feet in size, it is paneled in carved bird's-eye maple and decorated with silver and gold leaf. It was built at a cost of \$9,000. Here, during the owner's lifetime, weekly dances were held without a single human guest. Sarah Winchester, arrayed in the voluminous finery of her day, greeted her spectral visitors and led them through ghostly waltzes and cotillions. At first, a human orchestra from San Francisco played at these fetes, but as time went on, it became increasingly difficult for Mrs. Winchester to induce musicians to perform for spooks, so she installed a pipe organ and played it herself.

DESPITE her hermitlike existence, Sarah Winchester was not, I think, lonely at all. Who knows what phantoms assumed corporeal shape to her eye, what gay spook parties enlivened Winchester House from midnight to early dawn, what spectral laughter and gay clinking of glasses sounded through its somber halls? And, above all else, the Winchester widow has left the results of countless good deeds behind her. During her lifetime, she inspired charity, forbearance, and—most priceless of all things—loyalty. I wish with all my heart that I could have known Sarah Winchester and could have listened in, for example, on the preparations made by her gallant crew of retainers to stand off, in their mistress's behalf, a President of these United States!

SPECIAL OFFER! CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS—ATTENTION!

No pushing through Christmas shopping crowds to get this bargain gift! "RECIPES YOU'LL ENJOY," Julia Lee Wright's own cook book, regularly priced at \$1 plus 15c postage, is offered for a limited time only for 89c plus 15c postage. Bound in loose-leaf binder in sea-foam green, Chinese red, or lemon yellow, it comes in a handsome gift box to match. If you wish, your copies will be attractively tied as gifts with Christmas cards attached. And upon request, Mrs. Wright will gladly autograph each book.

Probably several persons on your gift list would be thrilled to receive a copy of "RECIPES YOU'LL ENJOY." It contains 200 pages of delicious recipes both old and new—clever ideas for entertaining—culinary short cuts—tempting uses for leftovers—and many other cooking hints. Each section is tabbed for ready reference. Send your orders early, together with 89c plus 15c postage for each copy, to Julia Lee Wright, Box 660, The Family Circle Magazine, Oakland, California. Please state color you desire for the cover. Orders will be filled promptly.

CURLY CUES

(Continued from page 13)

the tail may add a certain charm to pigs of dark complexion, whereas blonds may find a piquancy in the curl to the left.

In Kansas, we give our pigs feed, hence food would not be a factor in curl variations. Heredity is evidently a minor influence, as our pigs are rugged individuals from birth. Association does not seem to have much—if any—influence on pigtailed, as the aristocratic Berkshires and Poland Chinas have been seen frequently mingling with the proletarian Tamworth, yet they do as they please about their own curls.

The pigs of Kansas all have a daily banquet of Kansas's luscious alfalfa and rich, crispy corn grown under Kansas's world-famed climatic conditions. Our pigs take on a load of vitamins which would make anybody's tail curl with complacency, and as they rest in the shade of the cottonwoods or recline in the cooling waters of our prairie ponds, our pigs adopt the type of curl best suited to their respective figures and complexions.

Very truly yours,
I. D. GRAHAM
Chief Clerk

Department of Agriculture
State of Oregon

Gentlemen:

My survey and thesis "Do More Pigtailed Curl Right Than Left" is nearing completion, but before I have my researches bound, I'd like to avail myself of any information the State of Oregon has on the subject. Why, for example, do pigtailed curl to start with? And if they curl more often in one direction than in the other, why do they?

Very truly yours,
WILLIAM LAVARRE

STATE OF OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Sir:

Without a doubt the curl in pigs' tails is due to some action of the sun, the same action which affects various curling vines, such as hops, morning glories, and so forth.

When a pig is so stationed on the ground that the sun shines on his tail region, the sun doubtless has a pulling effect. When a pig is turned the other way, his shadow is such that it shades the tail region from the sun so that it is *not* pulled in the opposite direction. The sun produces many strange phenomena.

For example, when the stopper is pulled in a washbowl containing still water, the water begins whirling in a clockwise manner. That is, the whirlpool's vortex moves in a clockwise direction. Without a doubt this is due to some planetary influence. South of the equator, this movement is reversed. There the water in a washbowl whirls in a counter-clockwise direction, from left to right.

I have checked the several hundred pigs in our institutions and find that in the case of pigs in the State of Oregon, the tails curl predominantly to the right. As I have said, the sun produces many peculiar phenomena, and the best way to prove whether the sun has a directional influence on pigtailed would be to find out whether it is the tendency for pigtailed to curl predominantly to the right or left south of the equator.

Very truly yours,
W. H. LYTLE
Division Chief

Department of Agriculture
State of South Carolina

Gentlemen:

Would North American pigtailed opposite direction if the pigs were south of the equator? The division the State of Oregon's Department culture thinks that the sun has with the curling of pigtailed. My "The Pig's Tail: Does it Curl More the Right Than Left?" is almost. But before I stop, I certainly want any facts on the question which of South Carolina may have in it.

Sincerely yours,
WILLIAM LAVARRE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRIES

Dear Sir:

I beg to submit the enclosed report, which was made as a result of a brief investigation, after receiving your inquiry of the same. Yours very truly, respectfully,
SARA B. SHEALY
Secretary

Enclosure: "Report of the Investigation of Pigtailed"

REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATION OF PIGTAILS

By SARA B. SHEALY

*At last the time has come, my friend,
When we must all decide
What makes the pig's tail curl around
And when it curls—which side?*

*We made a tour of pigpens
With hope of finding out
The why and what and wherefore
Of pigs from tail to snout.*

*The first pig that we came to
Was eating and content,
And there, his tail was all curled round
From right to left it went.*

*The next pig that we looked at
Was sleeping in the sun,
And his tail curled from left to right—
Not like the other one.*

*And then we scanned the third pig—
We thought 'twould break the tie—
And what do you suppose we found?
I vow, I thought I'd die!*

*His tail was, honestly, so straight
You'd think 'twas ironed out,
And under no condition
Would he curl his tail about.*

*So from this investigation,
We're pleased to say this much:
Pigs just don't give a hang for style
When it comes to tails and such.*

*It makes no difference what the rule—
Left or right or straight—
He curls his tail to suit himself
And leaves the rest to fate.*

*And after all, that's sensible;
It's plain he's got a mind.
For no matter how he'd curl his tail,
The style'd still be BEHIND!*

The story of a fantastic 160-room house in California's Santa Clara Valley which stands as a monument to an obsession

The HOUSE

That Tragedy Built



by DEAN JENNINGS

IN CHICAGO RECENTLY a great American manufacturing firm was sued by an obscure inventor who claimed the company had stolen his idea for a household laundry tub with a built-in wash-board.

The company's lawyers shortly produced photographs showing that such handy gadgets were not new, and had been first used some fifty years before when the plaintiff was still a baby.

The photographs of the early laundry tubs were taken in the so-called Winchester Mystery House, a fabulous dwelling in California's Santa Clara Valley which has been astonishing architects, builders and sightseers since it was first opened to the public. In fact it might be considered a candidate for the eighth wonder of the world, with its 160 rooms, forty-seven fireplaces, nine kitchens, 10,000 windows and 2,000 doors that took thirty-eight years to build and cost some 5,000,000 dollars. Furthermore, the house has hundreds of trap doors, blind stairways, secret peep holes, and miles of confusing hallways.

All this was home to one fragile little woman, Sara Winchester, who had a princely fortune and spent it in a mad construction frenzy that lasted almost four decades.

Today the great house and its secrets she once protected with steel fences and armed guards, is stripped of its mystery. Since her death more than a million tourists have trooped in awe through the freakish mansion which spreads like a fungus over nine acres.

Further, it appears now that in spite of her obsessions, the amazing Mrs. Winchester was somewhat of a genius who was years ahead of her time in the building art. Yet she never saw a blueprint, hired no architects, and drew the plans for this grotesque house herself.

MRS. WINCHESTER arrived in the Santa Clara Valley without advance fanfare in the summer of 1884, and moved into what was then known as the Caldwell property, an eight-room house on six acres of level ground some four miles from San Jose, the county seat.

Neighborhood snoopers soon dis-

put up for sale and bought for 20,000 dollars by Mr. and Mrs. John Brown, who once operated beach-ride tours and concessions in southern California. They have operated the gaunt skeleton—of which only five stories remain—as a museum for some twenty years.

Now that the house is open it is easier to understand some of Sara Winchester's phenomenal gifts. Many a housewife has noticed the corner plates on each step of the many stairways to prevent dust pockets. Most of the forty-seven fireplaces had hinged iron drops for ashes, and built-in, concealed wood boxes. Mrs. Winchester herself designed a remarkable trigger catch for many of the 10,000 windows.

There's a touch of the macabre, too, in the many doors and windows which open on blank walls. Mrs. Brown discovered to her horror, in fact, that some of the upstairs doors led into the air, and an unwary person stepping through them would fall to the ground.

What was it that impelled Sara

Winchester to pour her energy and money into this strange monument?

Recently several psychiatrists, some of whom visited the place, have suggested a logical answer based on known behavior patterns. "Mrs. Winchester suffered a great shock with the loss of her husband and child," one said, "so this house became the instinctive and symbolic expression of an unfulfilled desire, wherein every room represented the creation and presence of a child. Building is for a woman a maternal expression."

Whatever the reason, Sara Winchester probably would be pleased to know that experts consider she built well. Some say the house could stand for another two centuries. Meanwhile, it has provided a living for Mr. and Mrs. Brown and for dozens of young people in the valley who have worked there as guides.

There has been much laughter of children in that house since 1922. That might have pleased Sara Winchester too.

Between the Lines of History



ONE NIGHT IN 1863—two years before Abraham Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth—a young man of 20 was standing on a railroad platform in Jersey City, waiting for a train to Washington where he was going to visit the President. Suddenly he was caught up in a jostling crowd and shoved dangerously near a train which was just pulling out. Before he could help himself, the traveler found his feet were caught between the platform and the moving train. Unable to extricate himself, he faced serious injury or possible death, when a bystander fought his way forward and at great risk to himself quickly jerked the youth to safety.

The young man was Robert Todd Lincoln, son of the President, and the man who saved him was Edwin Booth, brother of the assassin who was to take the life of the boy's father.

—EVELYN DOBBS HYND

An Eerie World: The Winchester House

A Spiritualist's Advice: 'Keep Building or Die'

TOO much has been said and written, conjectured and invented, about the huge, desolate old house which Sarah Winchester kept on building through the last years of her life at the southern outskirts of San Jose.

It is impossible, now, to fasten onto any one element in the web of rumor, romance and malice which guides and gossips have woven about the old place and say: "This, now, is a fact."

One can only take oneself from room to purposeless room, up to stairs that lead to nowhere, trying the doors that open on nothing, and wonder.

A baffled reporter and a bewildered photographer, finishing a tour of the Winchester House, could only agree it was very strange, very fascinating and, perhaps, a little frightening.

10,000 Doors and Windows

Not frightening because of ghosts. No ghosts could be more haunting than the house itself. Frightening because the 160 rooms, the 10,000 doors and windows, the incoherent jumble of stairways, levels and rooftops, form an architectural portrait of an unusual human mind.

Parts of the tale of its buildings are common to most accounts: Sarah Pardee Winchester, heiress to the Winchester arms fortune, sought consolation from mediums after the death of her husband and her son. She was four feet ten inches high, troubled with arthritis, had \$20,000,000 and an income of \$1000 a day. On the advice of her spiritualist, she became a recluse, persuaded that as long as building never stopped in her house, she would not die.

In the 36 years which followed, she spent a great deal of her capital and most of her income building, unbuilding and rebuilding. As many as 30 men might be working at once, but neither the house nor any of its rooms was ever completed.

Some of the work she supervised is elaborate: Inlaid floors, convex-concave windows of colored glass—in a room whose fireplace is roughed-in brick.

Some details are brilliantly inventive: A needle-shower devised years before needle showers were marketed—in a bathroom reached by several flights of 13 steps each, and entered through a glass door.

Some Details Incomprehensible

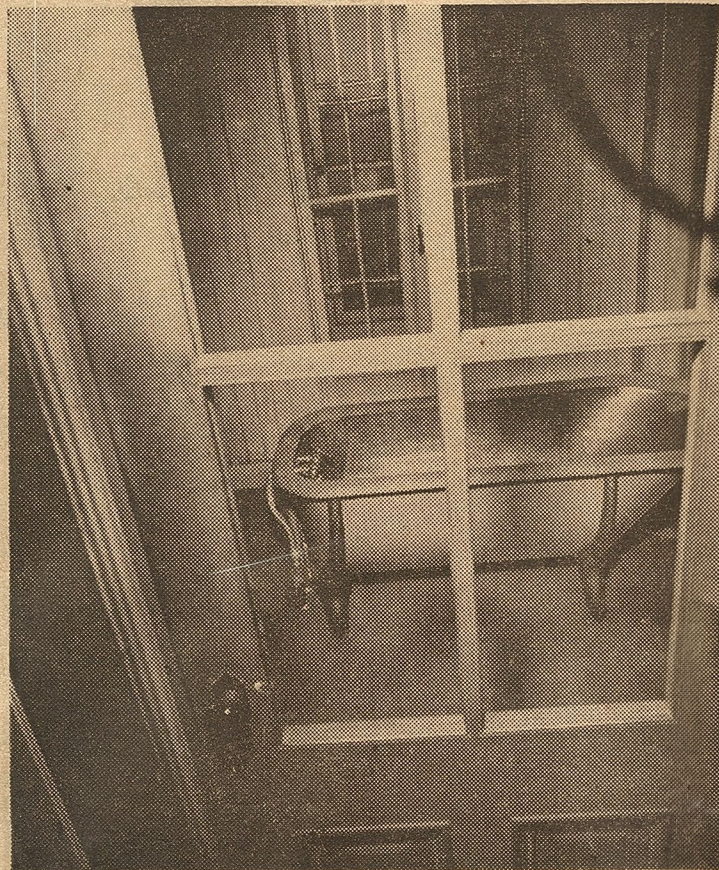
And some details are simply incomprehensible: Cheap veneer over an expensive mahogany door; ordinary gilt paint concealing the intricately worked German-silver legs of a bathtub.

Though tourists bustle cheerfully through the Winchester House—sometimes as many as a thousand a day—their presence hardly serves to populate the barren rooms, stripped now of furniture.

Their presence does little to relieve the pathos of the ornate ballroom where no one ever danced. And the cheerfulness does not always survive a trip through the empty halls.

For there is more to the house's effect on visitors than simple fascination with a product of wealth and abnormality. No man who has ever felt the compulsion to build a useless shelf in an empty corner of his own place can doubt that Sarah Winchester's failings were a common human weakness—exaggerated by too much grief, thrown out of perspective by superstition, implemented by too much money.

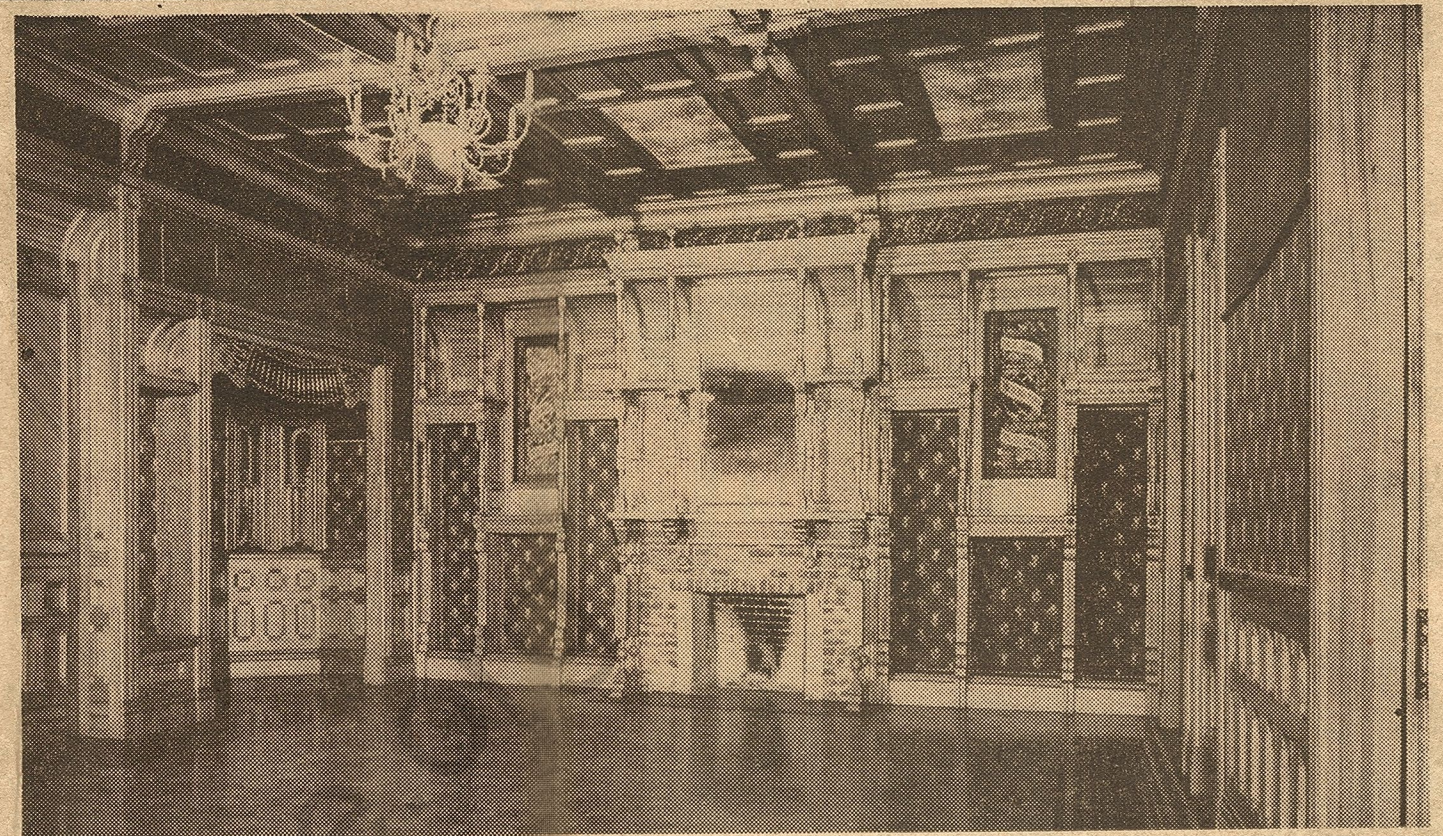
TEXT BY VANCE BOURJAILLY; PHOTOS BY ART FRISCH.



THERE ARE 13 bathrooms in the Winchester house, each entered through a glass or screen door. Most fixtures have been stripped away, but this zinc bathtub remains.



DISEMBODIED SHOES descend one of the house's innumerable flights of stairs, showing how low risers made the arthritic owner's progress easier.



Ornate ballroom, where the sound of music was never heard, has an unfinished fireplace



THE MOTORLOG AUSTIN and the Winchester house have one thing in common: sliding panels. The one in Austin's roof

encourages sunshine and fresh air on pleasant days, and lets occupants of the car get a look out the top.

Austin Motorlog

Anyone in San Jose can tell you how to get to the Winchester House, where it will cost 90 cents to see what you think of it all. For our motorlog we used a four-door Austin sedan, supplied by Peter H. Bauer, the Austin dealer at 1358 Valencia street. We enjoyed our outing in the Austin very much—found its leather seats comfortable, its performance peppy, and its low gas consumption encouraging. It held the roads steadily, even at speeds above 50, and was, of course, a joy to park since it went into spaces which big cars had to pass up.

We followed the Bayshore highway to San Jose, but any other road down the Peninsula will do as well. If there's still time for sightseeing after the Winchester House, San Jose offers its Rose Gardens, its Egyptian museum and the campus of San Jose State College.

V.B.



RET DOOR is identical with the one on corner closet when closed. It can be opened from within the room, not from without. Drawer, over which a guide is stepping, doesn't open at all.



MARBLE WASHBASIN shows quality of materials in the house. Plumbing, heating systems were ahead of their time.

Friday Dec. 1 1944

Winchester Of Mystery House Fame Proves Real Mystery

Santa Clara county's famous "Winchester Mystery House" is more of a mystery than even its publicizers realize. That's the emphatic opinion of Charles Prior, chamber of commerce publicity department head, who is still trying to batter down walls of rumors and false reports that hide the real facts about Mrs. Sarah Winchester and her famous spirit house. Prior's search began, innocently enough, in answer to a wire from Tamara Andreeva of Pacific Palisades, near Los Angeles, who asked the date Mrs. Winchester first occupied the mansion, her husband's full name, the date she died, where she is buried, and who now owns the mansion.

Consults Own Data

As a first source of information, Prior went to a three-page mimeographed sheet published by the chamber of commerce. This told him of Mrs. Winchester's decision to leave her home in New Haven, Conn., after the death of her husband and child, and of her conviction that she would live as long as she continued building on an unfinished 17-room home on a 30-acre plot on Stevens Creek road, which she purchased. But it failed to answer a one of Mrs. Andreeva's questions.

Prior checked all other material on file at the chamber of commerce, and then went to the public library, without tangible results. At his request Clyde Arbuckle, San Jose historian, dug into musty records without being able to dig up any pertinent facts.

From clippings in the Mercury Herald library it appeared that whereas Winchester's first names appeared to be William Wert, he was also referred to as "Oliver F." These clippings also revealed that, although it was believed Mrs. Winchester never left her Stevens Creek road mansion, she was residing in another home at Menlo Park when she died on September 5, 1922.

Burial Place In Doubt

Apparently she was buried in New Haven, Conn., in a plot alongside her husband, although even that fact is not definitely established. Even the number of their deceased children is in doubt. The chamber literature lists one, but a history entitled "California—A Guide to the Golden State," copyrighted in 1939 as a WPA federal writers' project, lists two. This volume indicates Mrs. Winchester moved into the mansion in 1884.

A Mercury Herald article of May 2, 1923, tells of the lease of her estate for 10 years to J. H. Brown amusement company of San Diego and Seattle but a three-year option was subsequently issued to Paul Marston.

The telegram didn't ask Mrs. Winchester's age but, if it had, that would have been another stickler, since, in his preliminary research, Prior has not yet determined that fact.

To positively and finally clear up all mystery surrounding the "mystery house," Prior has decided to spend a day digging through voluminous records in the Santa Clara county probate department. In the meantime the "mystery house" will remain just that.

Palo Alto Girl Inherits \$16,000

A 19-year-old Palo Alto girl, Barbara Anne Sullivan, has inherited an estate of over \$16,000, it was disclosed yesterday as Paul Rudolph, executor for the girl's mother, Mrs. Barbara K. Sullivan, filed a petition for guardianship in superior court.

The girl was named sole heir in the will of her mother, who died September 16 in Nebraska. Her father, Joseph T. Sullivan, is alive, but the Sullivans were divorced June 4, 1942, the mother obtaining custody of their daughter. The document provides that Barbara Anne Sullivan shall enjoy an income from the estate until she is 30, then assume possession of the whole estate.

The court is expected to grant an order today confirming sale of Palo Alto property of the estate for \$15,200. Personal property of Mrs. Sullivan has been appraised at \$1,440.

Rudolph was named guardian in the will. The petition for guardianship will be heard December 8.

Horse Keeps Balance Throughout Sea Storm

SYDNEY (AP).—The English racing stallion Zaimis arrived in Australia after a long and stormy voyage. In a cyclone, his box, which was lashed to the deck, was smashed to matchwood and washed overboard, but Zaimis was found on the open deck balancing himself like an expert as the ship pitched and rolled.

New Winchester Yarn Gives Novel Slant on Legend

It is almost a quarter of a century since the death of Mrs. Sara Pardee Winchester, and the legend around her name and the "Winchester Mystery House," one of Santa Clara County's most renowned curiosities, is still growing.

The latest chapter is in the magazine Coronet for May, in which Dean Jennings, former San Francisco newspaperman, tells his version of the Winchester story.

The popular local myth, that Mrs. Winchester kept building on to her curious abode at the dictate of "spirit voices" who told her that she would never die so long as the sound of the hammer resounded through the old mansion, is not mentioned in the Jennings story. It has been exploded from time to time, but keeps cropping up.

Architectural Ideas

Jennings favors the not-so-popular theory which prevails among some of the old-timers who actually knew her: Mrs. Winchester wasn't crazy; she wasn't even markedly eccentric; she was not a Spiritualist but a conventional Episcopalian. And the reason she kept building and building was that she was interested in architectural ideas very advanced for her time. Being alone, financially well-fixed and of an independent turn of mind, she used her own dwelling as a laboratory for trying out some of her theories.

No one knows for sure how many rooms there are in the Winchester house—or maybe that is part of the legend. Jennings favors the figure 160, which is often used. It is the writer's theory that it was the death of her husband, William Wirt Winchester of the Connecticut firearms manufacturing family, and of her son, which turned her to building as an outlet for her thwarted affections.

No Work After 1906

Mrs. Winchester came here from New Haven, Conn., in 1882, or it might have been 1884, accounts differ. She bought the old Caldwell house, on Santa Clara-Los Gatos Highway near Stevens Creek Road, which had eight rooms to start with, or it may have been 17, on six acres, or maybe 30, and proceeded to add on.

She is popularly supposed never to have stopped building, with little rhyme or reason to the design, until her death in 1922, but at that time her attorney, Roy F. Leib, proclaimed (mostly to deaf ears) that actually she never did any building after the 1906 earthquake.

Many rare and beautiful woods, art glass windows, and, supposedly, precious metals went into the curious structure. Jennings adds to the legend when he quotes Fred Larson of Campbell, long-time employe at "Llanda Villa," as the place was known, as saying that he took six screws from the supply room, used them to fix a loose gate, and afterwards was asked by Mrs. Winchester to put them back, as they were "solid gold" and to be used for "something special."

Kind and Friendly

Mrs. Homer S. Hall, 380 Moorpark Ave., was a child when she knew Mrs. Winchester, and to her there was nothing particularly odd about the little old lady. She, with other neighborhood children, played about the grounds of the

Winchester house, and the mistress of the mansion was always kind and friendly, she says. Being older people, however, Winchester had the name of reserved to the point of reserve. From this rather unflattering trait it was only a step to calling her as "peculiar." And the legend grew.

There are those, professing to know the house, and even its history, in the old days, who say the house actually was not so odd in the days when Mrs. Winchester lived in it; that doors opened from upper stories onto open stairways leading to nowhere, windows looking on blank walls, floors, peep-holes, and what actually are modern touches.

But that, too, may be a part of the legend.

Jennings mentions as some of the advanced ideas which Mrs. Winchester used long before they became common building practice, corner plates to keep dust out of stairway corners, fireplaces with hinged iron drops for ashes and built-in, concealed wood boxes, and a trigger catch for windows which was her own invention.

He also relates that when a Chicago manufacturing firm was sued by an inventor for "stealing" his idea for a laundry tub with built-

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Puzzled public soon may be allowed (for a fee) to explore daily this \$5,000,000 architectural nightmare of 160 rooms. Style is early Salvador Dali or late Lewis Carroll.



Flattened stairway, in "world's largest spook palace," hates to leave the ground, takes seven flights per floor.



Mutt-and-Jeff doorways are in tandem. You stoop to get through this door, but the next has 8-foot clearance.

Sevenscore Gables

Winchester "haunted" house is a mysterious combination of Paleozoic palace and Coney Island fun house

by **WELDON MELICK**

THE WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE, near the tip of San Francisco Bay, might have been malevolently designed to give some archeologist of the future the willies. Novelists, scenario writers and Ripley have made capital of its dawdling, doodling, 36-year growth from an eight-room cottage into a 160-room architectural tumor. And a puzzled public continues to explore the \$5,000,000 maze, built by Sarah Winchester, heir to the repeating-rifle millions.

Shrouded in tall trees, dense hedges and an unscalable fence, the patchwork mansion clutters six acres of the beautiful Santa Clara Valley. The entire estate is 160 acres.

The style of the structure might be described as late Lewis Carroll or early Salvador Dali. In one room inside windows are barred, outside ones aren't. Some inside doors are screened. A sliding glass bathroom door gives as much privacy as Macy's window. One corridor features Mutt-and-Jeff doorways. You have to stoop to enter the first, but the second, two steps beyond, has a clearance of eight feet! Ex-

terior water faucets protrude under second-story windows. A balcony or skylight may squat on the floor in the middle of a room.

Honeycombed with narrow passageways, the place is a curious combination of palace and Coney Island fun house. Some of the Tiffany cut-glass doors and windows cost \$1000 apiece. A year of meticulous craftsmanship went into the parquetry floor of the grand ballroom. A hand-wrought fireplace in the same room is flanked by stained-glass windows bearing the cryptic inscriptions: "Wide unclasp the table of their thoughts," and "These same thoughts people this little world."

In strange contrast to these appointments are a flattened stairway that takes seven flights of steps and a twisting climb of sixty-six for-

Photographs by Mike Roberts

ward feet to attain an elevation of ten feet, a roomful of trap doors, a gaslight operated by electric push buttons, a closet full of stairsteps, a linen closet deep enough to contain a six-room apartment, which you must enter by stepping over one of the two dummy-drawer fronts and squeezing through the narrow panel that should disclose shelves. A cupboard front with four genuine doors—but with nothing back of them—stands in the middle of another room.

Four tiled fireplaces and four hot-air registers are crowded within a space of twelve by fifty feet with no dividing doors. The house has forty-seven fireplaces—of bamboo, rosewood, cherry, ash, mahogany, onyx, Italian marble, pipestone and oak, all hand-carved on the premises, no two alike.

These whimsies merely scratch the surface. One stairway melts into a blank wall. Another has been boarded over. A chimney flue is built to pour the smoke from three fireplaces into one bedroom.

There are a dozen windows in a ten-by-twelve-foot room, windows everywhere, in walls, floors and ceilings. Storerooms bulge with solid mahogany and oak doors, unused Tiffany windows and enough fittings to fill a hardware store, including solid-gold hinges and screws, while one finds a five-foot plain window installed in a four-foot frame, with sashes overlapping, and short, cheap doors which don't even pretend to fill their frames.

Here a door opens against a solid wall. Step through another one and you lose thirty feet in altitude. Take note of the inlaid mahogany newel post—if you like your newel posts upside down. Cupboards, closets and drawers are strewn about like confetti. The keys to them and to hundreds of doors fill two water buckets. Ask Mrs. John H. Brown, the friendly proprietor, to show you Mrs. Winchester's solid-gold passkey.

Sponsored by Spirits?

Legend still insists the Mystery House was designed by spirits working through a medium, as a rendezvous for the ghosts of those who had their one-way ticket punched with a bullet hole. Certainly Sarah Winchester had no *earthly* use for 160 rooms, since she never entertained *mortal* guests. A dozen rooms were ample for her needs. If she actually intended Llanada Villa as a haven for the maladjusted spooks who looked down the barrel of a Winchester rifle and saw into the beyond, then it is the largest haunted housing project in history.

Servants and workmen knew the wealthy recluse as a highly intelligent, cultured woman, an accomplished musician, insatiable student and omnivorous reader in four languages, including Turkish. When I interviewed Fred Larson, her chauffeur for many years, he said the only time they ever thought she was peculiar was when she ordered her wine cellar smashed at the be-

ginning of prohibition. Dr. Clyde Wayland, her last doctor, told me he had never found her eccentric in any way, that her mind was keen to the very end.

The widow of her coachman, who accompanied her from New Haven, says Mrs. Winchester grieved so much after her husband's death that her health was affected. Her doctor prescribed a change of climate and a vigorous hobby. She went to California, where she bought an eight-room house on a small acreage for one of her sisters, intending to build her own later. But she became absorbed in remodeling it, and remembered a suggestion the doctor had made: that she develop her latent interest in designing. So she planned more and more rooms, at first, her attorney, R. C. Leib, told me, with some idea of providing separate family quarters in one connected structure for as many of her relatives as she could persuade to come west.

The expected relatives didn't come, but the project afforded so much creative pleasure that she kept on with it. She would sketch her ideas, sometimes on both sides of a scrap of paper, and have them executed by six or seven carpenters, three painters, a number of tile-setters, plumbers and other workmen employed as needed. She bought the most expensive lumber and would discard but not return a consignment if she found knots in the boards. I learned from one of the carpenters that she (Continued on Page 157)

Doors open on thin air or on slats, presumably offering secure footing for ghosts.



In blue "séance" room, two closet doors open on a bona fide closet, but another pair lead to next room. Drawers are dummies.



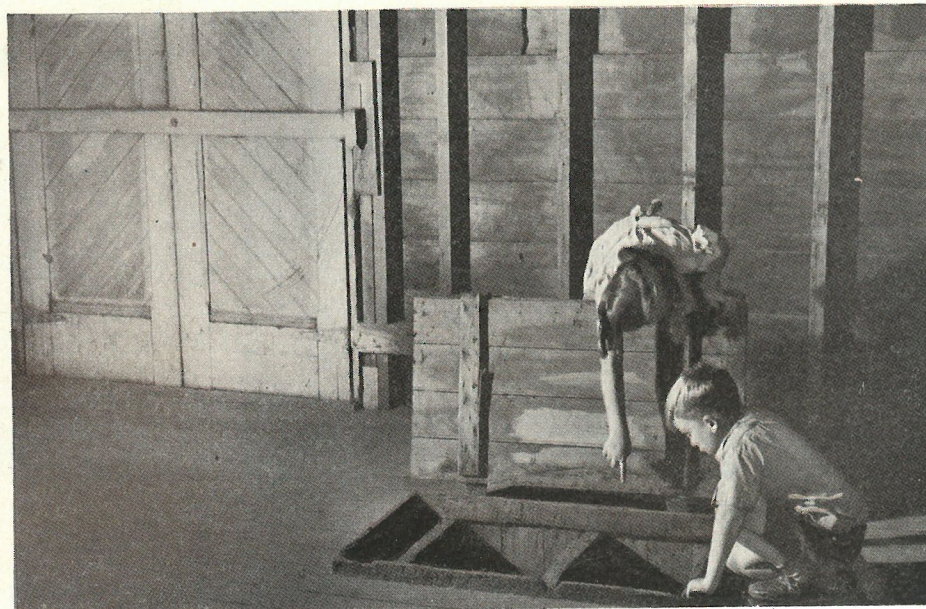
Among whimsical stairways, some melt into blank walls. This one is boarded up.



The Tiffany cut-glass doors and windows cost as much as \$1000 each. One has this cryptic inscription: "These same thoughts people this little world."



Barred door opens on nowhere; useful only to spirits. Trap door, however, was put in for practical reasons. It facilitated plumbing installations.



SEVENSORE GABLES

(Continued from Page 39)

would have woodwork rubbed to a piano finish, and then, if she decided it didn't fit her decorative scheme, out it came.

Work and sun improved Mrs. Winchester's health. She spent several comparatively happy years puttering about the prune orchard and planning new rooms, tearing off the outside walls and roofs time and again to build farther or higher. When she made mistakes, as she was bound to do with her amateur knowledge and erratic methods of construction, she blithely demolished them and started over, hid them with drapes, built right over them, or simply left them undisguised.

A Golden Legend

Inevitably the aimless extensions provoked gossip that grew into legends. They said the sound of hammers and saws echoed through the empty rooms night and day because she believed she would die the moment work ceased on her spookerie. They told of a blue "seance" room in which she conferred with spirit guides and allowed no other human to set foot. It was said that the floor undulated like the sea and ghostly nocturnal music was heard before the lady of mystery emerged with new blueprints from out of the blue. Fanciful tales related how the widow ate from a \$30,000 gold dinner service, and counted the pieces as they were returned to the safe after being washed.

At first Mrs. Winchester laughed at these reports, but Fred Marriott, her nephew by marriage, told me that the unpleasant persistence of such rumors finally caused her to shut herself away from curious, unsympathetic eyes. Never again did she pay or receive a neighborly call or chat pleasantly with anyone who wandered into her beautiful grounds. She became even more dependent on the enjoyment she got from shifting rooms and wings hither and yon, like a child playing with building blocks.

The blue "seance" room, instead of being sacred to the person of its mistress and her spooks, was actually used by almost everyone except Mrs. Winchester. John Hansen, foreman of her 160-acre property for many years, said that it served as his own bedroom for eight months, then in turn was used by the caretaker, a Japanese cook and his wife, one of the nurses, and the chauffeur. It is true that the floors "undulated like the sea"—and so did the ceilings and walls, in the earthquake of 1906. A seven-story tower snapped off and much of the house was damaged.

Mrs. Winchester talked of wrecking the place, remarking, "It looks as though it had been built by a crazy person."

She was persuaded instead to have the unsafe sections pulled off or boarded up. That would account for the outside door on the third floor, which couldn't possibly be of use to anyone but a parachutist.

There are also plausible explanations for some of the other paradoxes. The bar-protected inside windows were undoubtedly on the outside of the house until further building enclosed them. The floor with the skylight may have been a roof at one time. The exterior second-story water faucets probably had window boxes under them.

The boarded-over stairway, one account has it, was a wordless hint that the lady of the house didn't approve of the clandestine visits of one of her menservants to his Juliet's bower. The room full of "trap doors" looks pretty silly until Mrs. Brown tells you it was an upper-floor conservatory with an ingenious double floor for drainage purposes. A number of Mrs. Winchester's original ideas were practical and some have since been adopted by the building trades.

The foolish-looking stairways with three-inch steps and eighteen-inch treads take on a pitiful significance when you learn that Mrs. Winchester was stricken with arthritis and neuritis which made stair climbing painful, but she refused to give up active supervision of her beloved "barn." First she replaced the ordinary stairs with her self-styled "easy risers," then, when her affliction became worse, had an elevator installed for her wheel chair.

Banished Ghosts

Music heard in the dead of night at Llanada Villa was not supplied by the spooks' local. Mrs. Winchester had a reed orchestral organ in her bedroom and Mrs. Brown reports that she frequently played operatic arias to relieve the pain in her fingers that kept her from sleeping.

She also exercised her fingers with a handsaw, which explains the nocturnal sawing attributed to workmen. She was sensitive about her crippled condition, yet on occasion poked fun at it.

The rumor about the \$30,000 gold dinner service was scotched when Mrs. Winchester's safe was opened after her death. It disgorged only clippings, fishlines, socks and woolen underwear, mementos of her husband which she must have kept there for fire protection. There was also a pillbox containing four strands of blond hair and a two-line clipping

from a death column, "WINCHESTER In this city July 24, ('1866' inserted in pencil) Annie Pardee, infant daughter of William Wirt and Sarah L. Winchester."

It was a strange and extravagant hobby that furnished an outlet for Sarah Winchester's energies and prompted the gossip that cut her off from her fellows. Perhaps she is no more to be condoned for spending time and money to such unproductive purpose than the wealthy matron who fritters her life away in a social whirl. But from her point of view, her random building did no harm—instead, it provided work at excellent pay to a number of artisans. She hired them only by the day, but many didn't lose a day in fifteen or twenty years, and made enough to retire on.

She contributed to many charities regularly and others on the spur of the moment, anonymously whenever possible. Lawyer Leib told me that he once made a \$300,000 gift for her under strict orders not to reveal its source. She habitually sent loads of fruits and nuts from her trees to an orphanage. When her coachman died she gave his family money to buy a home. Her wise investments and business dealings enhanced her original legacy, and she left her entire fortune, after lifetime trusts for her nine nieces and nephews, and her nurse companion, to establish a tubercular hospital as a memorial to her husband. In order to hasten the possible cure of the disease, she contributed \$1,500,000 to the project during her lifetime.

Death Comes to a Dowager

Although she turned away all strangers, including a congressman, her hospitality to her own family knew no bounds.

Death finally found its way through the confusing labyrinth of passageways, sliding panels, dummy cupboards and stumble stairs to Mrs. Winchester's bedroom. The interminable rumbling of hammers and saws failed to enchant her life, as rumor said she hoped it would, but it may actually have prolonged her years. As soon as she started collecting rooms, as others collect stamps, her health improved. So the house that was supposed to have been built in the belief that it would keep her alive at least kept her interested in life until she was seventy-eight, and will keep her name alive as long as it stands.

You feel as you reluctantly leave Sarah Winchester's great big playhouse that it's a shame so few people had the privilege of knowing her. She must have been quite a character.

THE END

LOUNGE • OCEAN SUN DECKS • TWO FLOORS OF LOUNGES • THEATRE IN THE SKY • SQUASH COURTS

Luxury, and more of it

... by the sea

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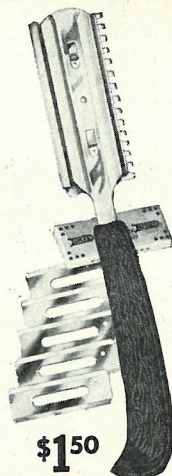
FOX HUNT and SPIN BOWL are only two of many CARROM Games that insure fun for everyone at any time. See the wide assortment of CARROM Games at your favorite game store... get them for yourself... choose them as year-round indoor sports equipment and timely gifts for your family and your friends.

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How to keep your dog HEALTHIER, HAPPIER

Dogs grow an entirely new coat every few months. *Old hair* must be frequently removed, or your dog's health is menaced. *New growth* must be groomed often, or your dog quickly looks and feels unkempt.

Join the thousands who keep their dogs' coats clean, smart looking the easy, low-cost home way—with



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DUPLEX DOG DRESSER

*Last file - Dec 19, 1950, P
This will bring back childhood memories,*

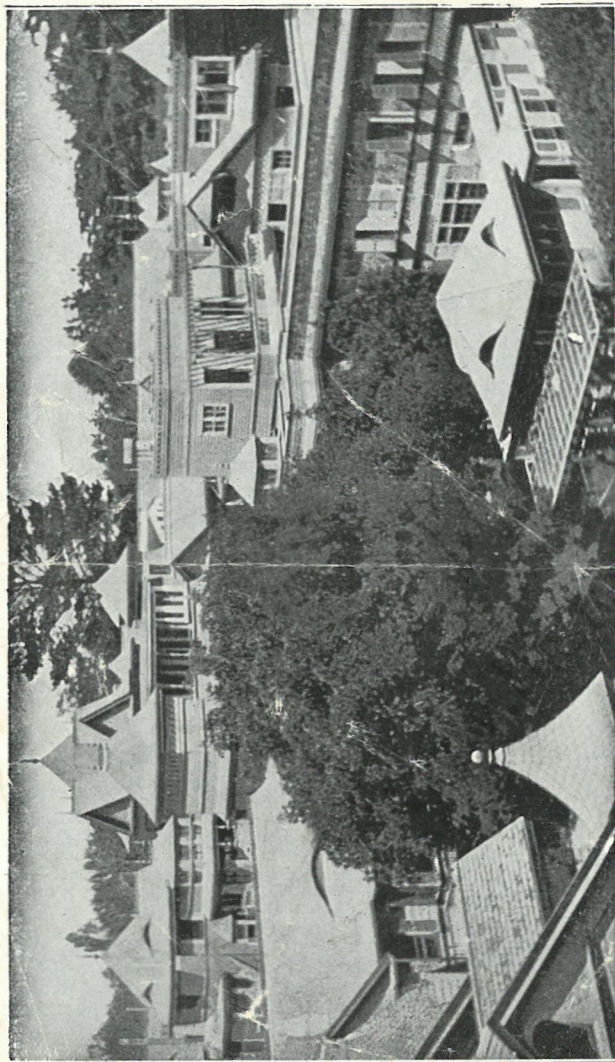


WINCHESTER BARN BURNS
—Ancient two-story barn, once part of Winchester Mystery House buildings, went up in flames last night along with ton and a half of orchard spray sul-

phur stored in it. Nineteen men and three trucks from Burbank Fire Department directed by Chief Frank C. Mileham battled for nearly two hours. Mileham said sulphur made scene so hot

it was difficult to approach. Main Mystery House, 600 feet away, was not damaged. Cause was not known.

—Photo by Norman Holmes.



THE WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE

WINCHESTER Mystery House

Spirit House, Wonder House
The World's Largest, Oddest Dwelling
 In SANTA CLARA VALLEY 3 Miles West of San Jose, Calif. Take Stevens Creek Road to Santa Clara and Los Gatos Road

The MYSTERY HOUSE, ONE OF THE WORLD'S WONDERS, was PLANNED AND BUILT by the late SARAH L. WINCHESTER, (of WINCHESTER RIFLE fame) AS THE SPIRITS DIRECTED, and many rooms were built for Departed Spirits.

This Wonder House was UNDER CONSTRUCTION for 36 YEARS, the Owner believing she would live as long as she continued to build. MILLIONS OF DOLLARS have been expended in its construction, and WONDERFUL MATERIALS and WORKMANSHIP are here. GOLD AND SILVER CHANDELIERS, ART GLASS WINDOWS AND DOORS have the glass inlaid with GERMAN SILVER AND BRONZE. Many art Windows valued at \$1000 each, and the FRONT ENTRANCE DOORS are VALUED AT \$2000.

THE MYSTERY HOUSE and outbuildings cover six acres. The House contains 160 ROOMS, and THOUSANDS OF DOORS AND WINDOWS, also has its own Heating, Lighting, Water and Sewer Systems.

THREE ELEVATORS, 40 STAIRWAYS (most of them having 13 steps), 47 FIREPLACES, Blind Stairways, and Stairs that go nowhere. BLIND CHIMNEYS, Hundreds of CLOSETS, some open onto BLANK WALLS and some open into space. GOOFY STAIRWAYS, Floors laid with TRAP DOORS, SECREET PASSAGE WAYS, Etc.

THE WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE

Inside Rooms with Doors and Windows Screened, screens on blank walls, Laundry tubs having Wash-board and Soap Tray Molded into the Porcelain tubs, Gas lights can be turned on, turned off, or lighted by pressing a button. All the turned posts about the MYSTERY HOUSE have been installed up-side-down, or topsy turvy. 13 BATHROOMS, some of which have GLASS DOORS, while others have SCREEN DOORS. Window Shutters can be Opened or Closed by turning a crank. Chandeliers with 13 lights, Rooms with 13 Windows. Ceilings having 13 panels.

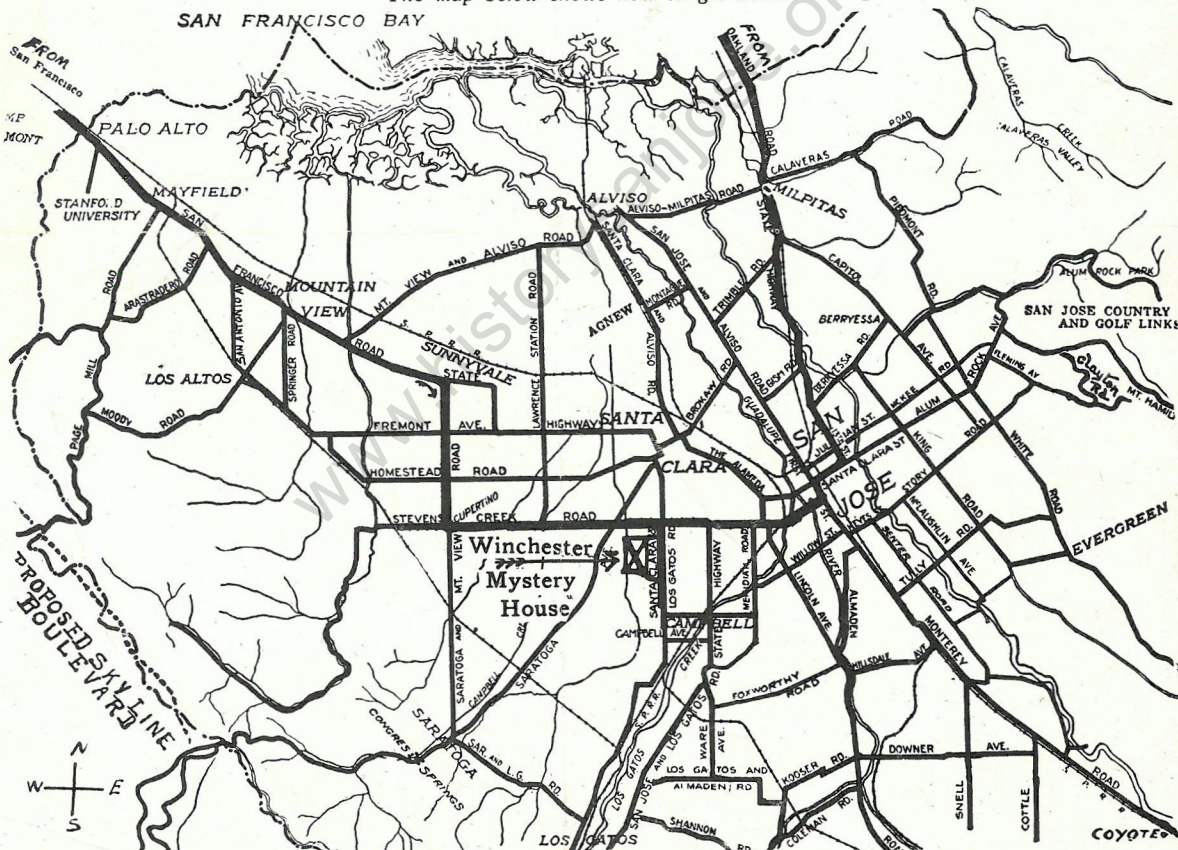
THE MYSTERY HOUSE, in addition to having MANY MYSTERIOUS THINGS, has many MARVELOUS and BEAUTIFUL things that are really Works of Art.

Warerooms are filled with all kinds of Beautiful Materials, Light Fixtures, Sash and Doors, Art Glass Windows and Doors, High grade interior finish woods, such as Cedar, Oak, Ash, Walnut, Mahogany, Maple, Cherry, Rosewood, Etc. Hardware, Shutters, Screens, Tile, Plumbing, in short, everything needed for a continuation of her continuous building Program.

The Wonderful Grounds about THE MYSTERY HOUSE have many trees and shrubs from various parts of the world.

THE MYSTERY HOUSE IS OPEN EVERY DAY, Hours from 8:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M.—Guides will show you through in parties of two or more.

The map below shows how to get there.



Winchester Ghosts Regaled in Mansion Of 10,000 Windows

THOUGH she was wealthy, and the widow of a prominent man and came of good family and had—at the outset—a lovely home and a beautiful estate, she wasn't a society woman in any sense of the word.

Rather, she was antisocial, in a negative sort of a way.

She just wanted no part of a world to which most other women crave entrance, and to which she might have easily been admitted.

She just wanted to be alone with her ghosts. Where other hostesses cultivated visiting celebrities she cultivated visiting ghosts. She knew the most charming set of ghosts this side of the Styx and entertained them often and royally, whenever they were in the neighborhood.

And she wasn't at all crazy. Her attorney made that perfectly clear. "She was as sane and clear-headed as any woman I have ever known," said he, with interesting ambiguity.

* * *

IN THE EARLY eighties, Sarah Pardee Winchester was a very much in love young woman. She was the wife of William Wirth Winchester, son of the inventor of the Winchester rifle and many times a millionaire. She was

Sarah Winchester's Goal Was to Live Forever

She Thought She Would Never Die If She Never Finished Building

(Continued from Page One)

inordinately in love with her husband and couldn't spend enough time with him. She was also the mother of a beautiful child. She had many friends in her home city of New Haven, Connecticut, and moved in select circles there.

Then—all of a sudden—her husband, and then her son, died of tuberculosis. She was completely knocked out by the double calamity and somehow found herself unable to believe in her losses. She was assisted in this attitude by a spiritualist to whom she found her troubled way, a character who told her that he was constantly in touch with her late husband and could relay messages to him just like Western Union, though slightly more expensively.

Sarah went for this pitch and was soon getting a variety of strictly odd communications from hubby. It seems that he and the child were very, very unhappy. 'Cause why? 'Cause they were being plagued by the spirit of

innocent persons killed by Winchester rifles.

These resentful ghosts were making death miserable for them and something had to be done, but fast. What to do? First, pay that wonderful medium, and generously. Next, go to California and there build a palace in memoriam, one in which the spirits might find sanctuary after a busy night of haunting. And—here was the gimmick—this house was never to be finished. Life would go right on for Sarah just as long as she kept the structure in the process of construction.

The point of living on forever at a time when she was presumably most interested in rejoining her husband is slightly incomprehensible from this perspective, but it seemed a desirable project for Sarah and she forthwith embarked upon her hypothetical eternity.

* * *

SHE CHOSE SAN JOSE for the site of her palace and thereupon commenced a more than forty year residence. Starting with a seventeen room house she went into the construction business, but indefinitely.

She didn't need any architect or plans. She merely hired a head carpenter and told him to keep building rooms. Finish one, start another.

Her first construction boss, a man of apparently limited vision, quit almost immediately after being hired. His imagination just couldn't take the idea of an endlessly reproductive house.

Her next carpenter boss stayed with her for thirty years. The paperhanger was a captious, instable fellow who remained for only twenty-seven years. All in all, it was figured that she kept twenty-two men busy for thirty-six years.

The result was a sort of a human rabbit warren, but very de luxe. There were thirteen bathrooms, some with screen doors and some with transparent glass doors. After all, you can't see a ghost, draped or undraped.

There were 10,000 windows, and several thousand doors, many of them leading to strictly nowhere, or to a sheer drop to the ground below. Forty-seven fireplaces. Fantastic staircases; steep ones, broad ones, high ones, staircases that led to nowhere and staircases that led downstairs again.

Nothing was too good for Sarah's spooks. Fine woods . . . maple, cherry, rosewood, mahogany and walnut. Hardwood floors



THE MYSTERIOUS WINCHESTER HOUSE
Eccentric Owner Sought Eternal Life in Building

an inch thick. Gold hinges. Solid gold and silver chandeliers. Those ghosts had the after-life of Riley.

* * *

THE MOST FABULOUS room in the house was Sarah's own boudoir, which was quilted with white satin throughout. Even the ceiling. No one but Mrs. Winchester was allowed in this room for it was here that she communed with the spirits. An oriental bell would ring at midnight to summon the ghosts and shortly thereafter the satiny room—as far as Sarah was concerned—was packed with spooks.

One night a parlor maid named Maggie Dugan decided to find out for herself if it were true, what she'd heard, and she stashed herself under her mistress' bed. Her terrified report still leaves it unclear as to what kind of spirits were involved in her adventure, whether it was the occult or the

cognac that aroused her that night.

Said she (later, after she had been dismissed by Sarah):

"The room grew dark and a greenish yellow light swam into the room." ("Swam," she said.) "A detached hand appeared and shook its fist at me. Then came something half human . . . half animal!"

And half Scotch, possibly.

Maggie wasn't the only one to spread odd stories about the Casa Winchester. Other servants and some of the workmen had equally bizarre yarns to tell. One carpenter told of the sound of a baby's crying in an empty room, of trap doors that opened and closed without human help and of an organ in the ball room that played all by itself, single-O, and without an organist, that is.

The organist had been installed after Sarah began to have diffi-

culty hiring orchestras to play for her balls. Local musicians became narrow-minded and difficult after having made music for parties at which Mrs. Winchester, all dressed up in her silkiest best, would stand at the door and receive guests that they couldn't see. Servants, the story went, would pass trays stacked with delectable foods and rare liquors. And then Mrs. Winchester would stand at the door and bid all of her invisible guests goodnight.

A couple of dates like that and you couldn't blame a musician for taking to marijuana. They refused to come back so Sarah got an organ. The nether world apparently supplied the organist and let Petrillo just try and do something about THAT!

* * *

SARAH SELDOM LEFT her haunted house. She never went

Spirits Served to Invisible Guests at Sarah's Parties

Eccentric Woman Seldom Left Haunted House---Entertained Few Visitors

to church, rode on a train, or visited friends. Seldom was any one admitted to her home. Harry Houdini called on her once, as did Mary Baker Eddy. Teddy Roosevelt dropped by with members of the San Jose Chamber of Commerce when he was President of the United States but Sarah wanted no part of him. She said that she wasn't in.

Her help were apparently well satisfied and loyal to her. One reason was that they were very well paid (and treated) and another reason may have been that the cellars of the establishment were very well stocked. As I have said, Mrs. Winchester believed in spirits. She was also quite convinced that a spirit could raise a thirst as well as the next one, which accounted for the way in which her booze was disappearing.

The servants were kept busy replenishing the kegs and demijohns and bottles so that none of the spirits would be deprived of a toddy or a highball if and when wanted, which was often. The personnel were always very conscientious in the performance of this little chore.

Sarah lived to be a vigorous and still energetic 85. To the last she was building and planning more building. And then, one day in 1922, her life and the San Jose memorial to her faith in a long gone spiritualist came to an end. She passed away in one of her 120 rooms, and left four of her

original ten million dollars to eight nieces and nephews, and to a hospital in Connecticut for the purpose of stamping out the disease that had taken her husband and son, and routed her into her strange, lonely career of pathological self-perpetuation.

* * *

AFTER SHE WAS GONE, this carping world—none of whose business it was—sought to suggest that she was insane. That was when her harassed attorney—Roy F. Leib—was driven to the statement that "she was as sane as any woman I have ever known."

They asked him about the house that kept getting larger and larger. All he could say was that he was sure that Sarah had kept enlarging her house because she "was expecting relatives from the East." He had to admit that the relatives had never shown up.

Not in human form, at least.

Or make offer on dr. paving over \$27,000 net. 3 separate bldgs. Lot size 412x150. Built-in ovens, & ranges, refrig. Hardwd. floors. Only 1 1/2 years old. Always rented. Terrific investment.

WALNUT CREEK
LOTS—BARGAIN
Because of personal reason must sacrifice these parcels.
Call AC 8-2091—Martinez

Peninsula
Cabin, 2 b level, wood sh Chain, pract. lev. sec., water. Clark, Ave.

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Good old
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Area location. Full price, \$675,000.

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A Sleeper—Only \$17,800
2 APTS. AND A STORE
GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD AREA
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FLATS—1 5 and 1 4
Good location in Mission. Lower has tile bath and kitchen. Terrazzo stairs. 2 garages. \$23,500

HOME AND INCOME
2-bdr. m. home and 3-rm. apt. Ex. col. cond. Bus at door. \$2000 dn. J. Gierzi JU 4-7800, PL 6-6700

RICHMOND FLATS

APARTMENT
2-bdr. m. home, El Camino front age. Broadway area. Additional rental units can be built on lot. \$25,500

COLDWELL-BANKER
100 El Camino Real, San Ma Diamond 2-4313

OAKLAND
LAKE MERRITT — 6-unit apments, all one bedroom, 1 new. \$49,500. By own. TE 6-2

PALO ALTO
OWNER-BUILDER
Nearly new 12 lge. one and a half bedroom units. Less th 3% vacancy since Jan. 1st. 19 Excellent financing. Phone 1-1155 or DA 3-7560.

PENINSULA
32 TROP. APTS. Net \$41,787 year.

PERFECT FOR LARGE FAMILY
Wonderful family home—150 rooms—over 30 split levels—hundreds of closets—3 elevators—40 stairways—47 fireplaces. Have a Mother-in-Law problem? She'll adore white satin-lined seance room.

Ideal for handy-man. 10,000 windows. 2000 doors. Impossible to duplicate today. Materials alone cost over \$1,000,000. Mrs. Sarah Winchester, Designer and Contractor. Open for inspection, daily, 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. (50c admission.)

TEMPTED? Better think twice. To spend one minute in each room would take two and a half hours. And the halls! There are literally miles of winding, intricate and bewildering connecting corridors. Besides, it's not for sale, anyway.

This ad describes San Jose's famous Winchester Mystery House. The crazyquilt, six-acre, 150-room mansion resembles a small city more than a house. It was built and occupied from 1884 to 1922 by Mrs. Sarah L. Winchester, widow of a son of the firearms manufacturer. The cost of the weird building is estimated as high as \$5 million, and it is a known fact that materials alone, the finest obtainable, cost over \$1 million.

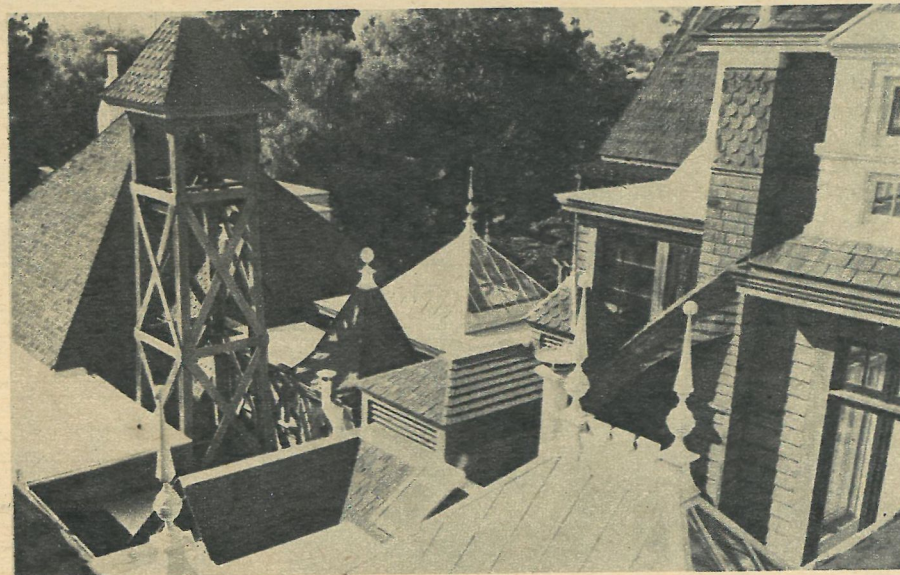
Sarah Winchester was a spiritualist who fled the electrical storms of New England to settle in the calm countryside of the Santa Clara valley. It was there, in the 1880s, a medium told her death would never overtake her—as long as she kept on building. For 38 years, until her death proved the medium mistaken, she kept a crew of 16 carpenters, along with artisans and glaziers, busy wrecking and rebuilding her home. It became stranger and more complicated with every hammer blow.



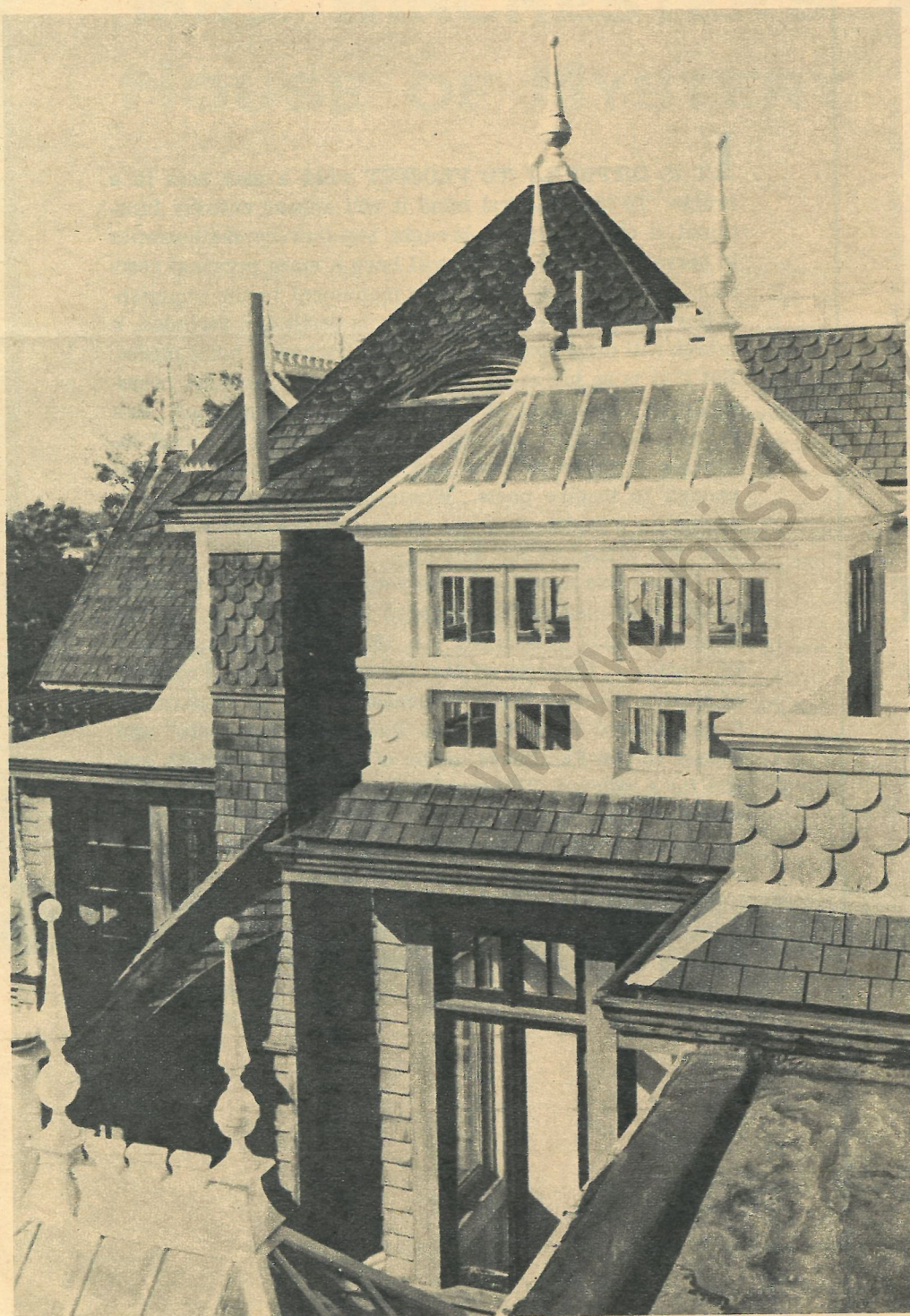
ARCHITECT of the original unfinished 17-room Winchester home quit in high dudgeon when she added tarantellas of towers, turrets, transoms.

The ambling, grotesque, yet magnificent building stands in park-like grounds, hidden from prying eyes by dense hedges, an unscalable fence and grim iron gates. Inside the massive entrance door, the wonders come thick and fast. The reception room scintillates with thousands of prisms amid gold and silver leaf. The ballroom is a vast birdseye maple chamber—but no ball has ever been held in it. The “White Satin” chamber, its walls, ceiling and floor covered with the sumptuous fabric, was entered by no one but Mrs. Winchester. In her later years, she would dismiss her nurse at its door and shut herself up for hours at a time to commune with her departed mate. When the oldest part of the house was shattered by the 1906 earthquake, Mrs. Winchester, convinced that spirits were warning her to abandon these rooms, had them padlocked. The embossed plaster still hangs in shreds, the beveled windows are still broken, the inlaid floors lie under thick dust. The mansion is a fantastic patchwork of trap doors, crooked halls, steps leading nowhere. Stairways twist up and down, 2000 doors open at unexpected

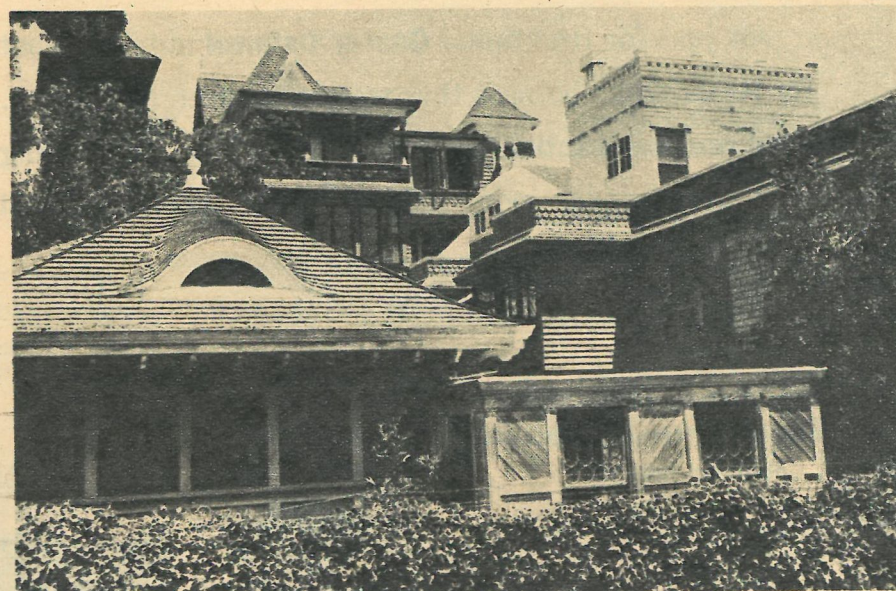
Continued on Page 37



BELL TOWER (left) was used by Mrs. Winchester to summon her gardeners from chores on her large estate. Notice profusion of skylites.



BACK PART OF THE HOUSE shows weathercock surmounting a tower. Garden rooms, greenhouses and pergolas are at ground level nearby.



THE HOUSE is a bizarre maze of unmatching styles, as can be seen from a view of one small portion of the vast mansion's central part.

FANCY WOODWORK, such as the turned spires on the rooftops, are characteristic of the Winchester Mystery House. Many windows are of stained art glass.

MRS. WINCHESTER'S HOUSE OF MYSTERY

Continued from Page 25

places, some of them on blank walls, into cellars, or into blank space from upper stories. Ten thousand windows, of almost as many varieties, appear in walls, floors, ceilings and chimneys, hundreds looking out on blank partitions.

Other than this engrossing eccentricity, Mrs. Winchester was reported to be a woman of charm and culture. She was well-educated, fluent in several languages, a lover of music, art and literature, and philanthropic on a large scale. During her long residence in her "Spirit House," she never visited another home, refused every caller (even President Theodore Roosevelt), never entered a church or public building. Evidently her lonely grandeur suited her.

Some people call Winchester Mystery House a "freak" attraction. Others are impressed by the spirit and faith that created the maze, even more than by the unusual edifice itself.

Diana Walton

Photos by Art Frisch



MOST OF THE 45 STAIRCASES have 13 steps. Solid woods, exquisitely finished, were used throughout, and most of them are piano-top finished.

The Hammers of Life and Death

*Was the Eccentric Mrs. Winchester
Really Ahead of Her Times?*

By LYNN LUDLOW

SAN JOSE — Sarah Winchester, who devoted her life to building the only tourist attraction in the Santa Clara Valley, might well be considered as 50 years ahead of her time.

It's an unusual theory,

but there is much that is unusual about the Winchester House and the cities which have grown up around it.

More than 60,000 visitors are attracted here each year by "Mystery House" billboards adorned with ghostly skulls. They pay

\$1.50 apiece to gawk, shudder and write their initials on the peeling wallpaper when guides aren't watching.

But Mrs. Winchester, a wealthy recluse who turned to construction as a form of what we now call therapy, has never received credit for seizing upon a guiding principle in the contemporary development of the Santa Clara Valley.

Grew and Grew

This principle is growth for its own sake, and there is much to show that Mrs. Winchester, in her own peculiar way, helped to foster it.

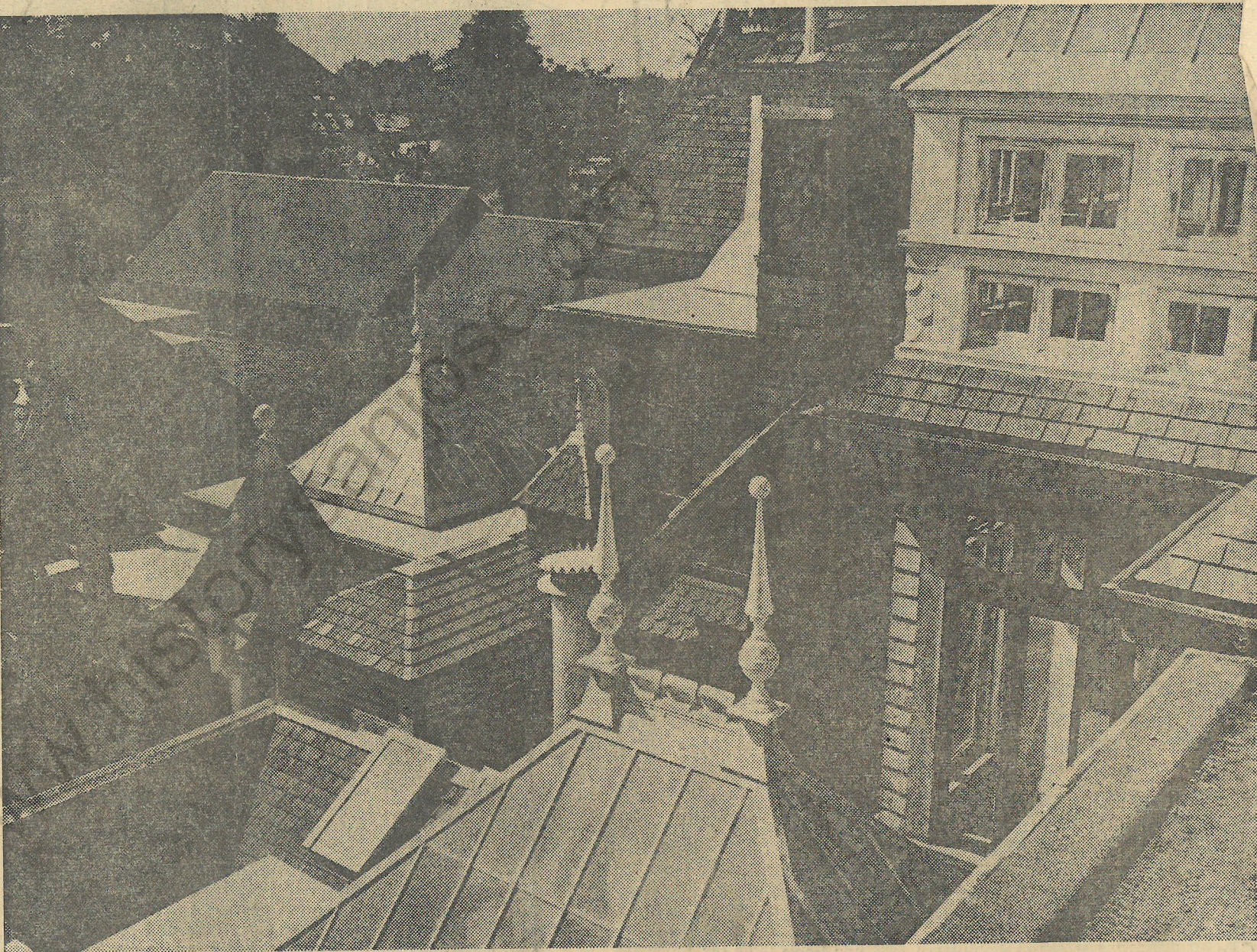
In 1884 she bought an eight-room farmhouse here after the deaths of her infant daughter and her husband, son of the man who made Winchester Rifles.

In the 36 years before her death in 1922, the house grew to 160 rooms.

In the past 25 years, the city limits of San Jose have quadrupled; its population more than tripled, and in another 15 years it is expected to become the most populous city in Northern California.

The \$5 million mansion was purchased for a song from Mrs. Winchester's heirs by a San Jose businessman who converted it into the last thing she would have expected, a tourist stop. The teenaged guides hired by Winchester Properties, Inc., like to lead groups into a blue room.

It was here, they suggest, that she may have been assured by the spirit world that she would stay



THE CUBISTIC JUMBLE OF EAVES, SKYLIGHTS, BELL TOWER AND STRANGE ORNAMENTS
Looking down on the Winchester House—the wood, brick and glass embodiment of a woman's compulsions

alive so long as the sound of hammers were heard in the house.

Blank Walls

In the walnut-paneled chambers of San Jose City Hall, City Manager A. P. "Dutch" Hamann can be heard urging the City Council at least once a month to follow a policy of

continued urban growth as the key to economic vitality.

One of Mrs. Winchester's eccentricities was to rip up rooms which she had just ordered her permanent crew of carpenters to remodel with the finest of materials. Once she fired a mason who complained when she asked him to tear

out the marble floor he spent three years building.

One of the legends about Mrs. Winchester is that she believed she would die if they ever stopped working on the house.

The proposed Crosstown Freeway which will extend the Junipero Serra Freeway across central San

Jose is expected to demolish more than 2,000 homes.

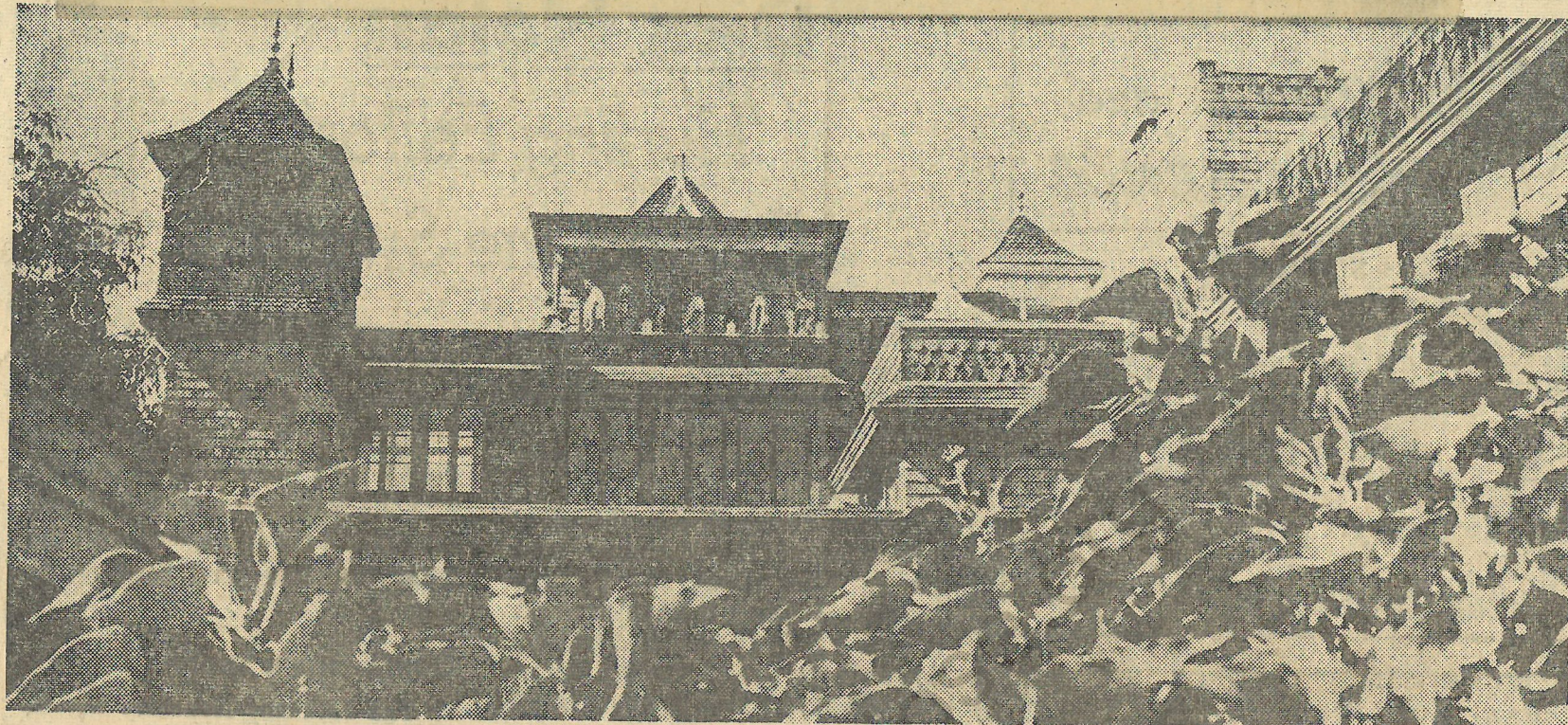
Corridors in the Winchester House often lead to blank walls, and a staircase ends at the ceiling. Guides are essential.

Within a rifle shot of the mansion, a dozen city streets end abruptly, and without apparent reason,

in dead ends. Cities in the area have thousands of streets less than two blocks long, and cab drivers are

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 4)

**Photos by
Fran Ortiz**



REAR VIEW SHOWING THE FOURTH FLOOR OF THE FABULOUS WINCHESTER HOUSE

A Visit to the 'Mystery House'

(Continued from Page 1)

frequently hired just to lead newcomers to their homes.

Many other comparisons suggest themselves.

Mrs. Winchester installed 10,000 windows, and a subdivision in East San Jose is laid out for 10,000 homes.

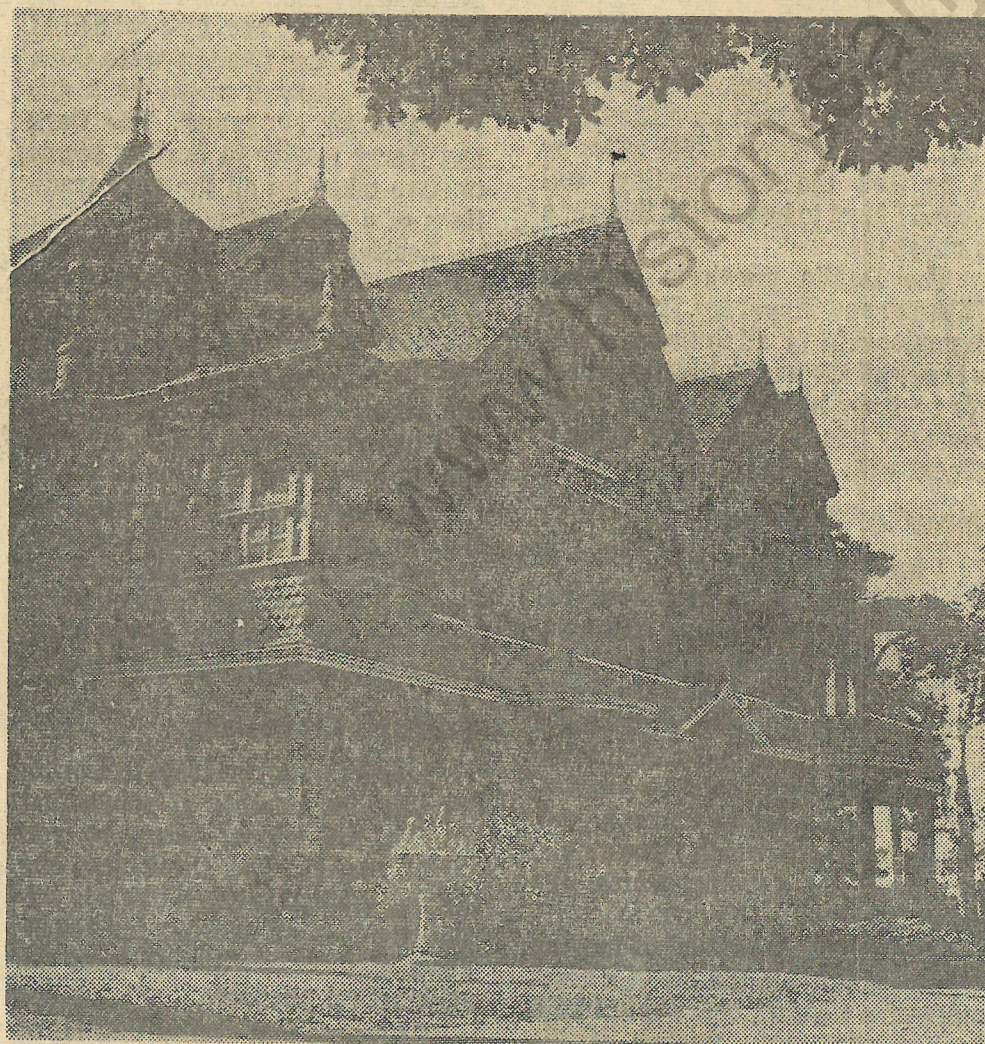
She had 20 kitchens, and the Santa Clara County courts are split between the downtown district and the new Civic Center.

City of Cupboards

A cupboard in the mansion opens like a door into eight big rooms, and the Winchester Road, a major artery just outside the Mystery House, is a two-lane road for much of its length.

But this much is evident. If the cities of Santa Clara County ever band together

as a single city-county government, as has been proposed from time to time, the eccentric widow's influence could be recognized by calling the new metropolis by an appropriate name, Winchester.



THE FRONT VIEW OF THE 'MYSTERY HOUSE'

THE WORLD OF Leisure

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, SUNDAY, DEC. 11, 1949

PAGE 1L

A Desolate Jumble in San Jose

UNDER this endless jumble of roof tops spread the aimless halls and eerie rooms of the Winchester House near San Jose. Whether the bell, just left of center, was used to summon workers from the fields or guests from the misty pastures of a world far beyond San Jose cannot be said for sure. Like the chimney, which is carefully designed to serve five fireplaces, but which ends just 13 bricks short of emerging from one of the peaks at right, the bell may never have been put to use. For 36 years Sarah Winchester kept carpenters and craftsmen busy, convinced that as long as the house was not completed, she would not die. In one room is a row of half-driven nails—the place where men were working when word of the old lady's death reached them. Further impressions and pictures of a Chronicle motorlog team's visit to the Winchester House appear on Page 4.

homes • gardens • travel • aviation • autos • photography • recreation • hobbies

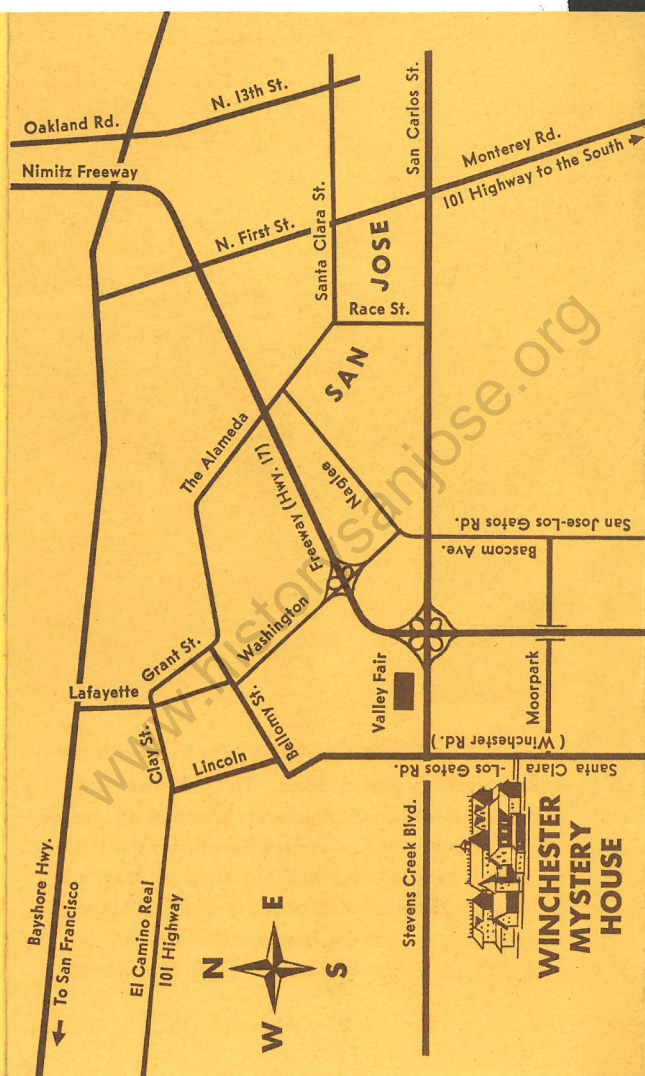
The Strange World of the Winchester House



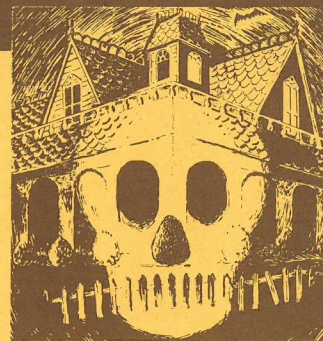
But in addition to the bizarre, there is the beautiful—gold and silver chandeliers; art glass windows and doors inlaid with German silver and bronze; front entrance doors valued at \$2,000, and many art windows valued at \$1,000 each; exquisite parquet floors. And in warehouses, awaiting Sarah L. Winchester's planned continuation of her life-sustaining building program, there are untold treasures—light fixtures; sash and doors; art glass windows and doors; cedar, oak, ash, walnut, mahogany, maple, cherry and rosewood interior finish of the finest; hardware; screens; tile; plumbing—everything bought, catalogued, and stored by the woman who believed that building would bring never-ending life.

Winchester Mystery House is a house of "WHY"! WHY did intelligent, intuitive Sarah believe as she did? WHY did she wish so passionately to prolong her stay on this sphere when her dearest ones had gone? DID she commune with the spirits of those long gone—pierce the veil between the known and unknown—hear the music of the spheres?

Winchester Mystery House is a must-see for anyone visiting the San Jose area. It is open daily, with guides to show you through in parties of two or more. Follow the map (the House is 4 miles west of downtown San Jose), or take Peerless Bus Line.



WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE



**THE WORLD'S
LARGEST,
ODDEST
BUILDING**

439 Winchester Road, San Jose, California, AXminster 6-0213

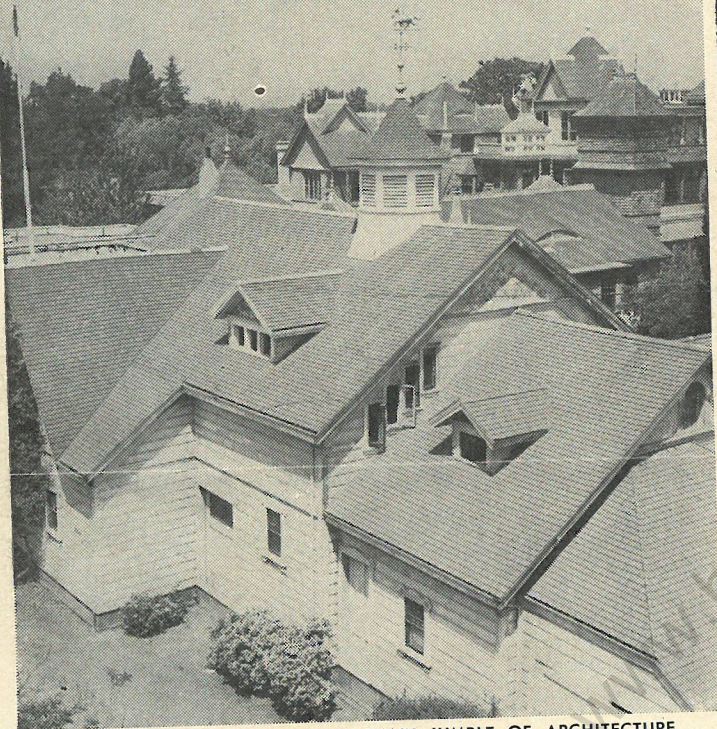


Probably the most picturesque—certainly the strangest—dwelling in the entire country, and one of the world's true wonders, is this 160 room mansion rambling over 6 acres. This was the home which Sarah L. Winchester, widow of the famed Winchester Rifle manufacturer, planned to perpetuate her life. Always a student of the occult, the generous and sensitive Sarah, crushed by the death of her husband and infant daughter, consulted a seeress who advised that so long as she kept a building project going, she would never die. Striving for this promise of life eternal, she spent millions and kept builders busy for 36 continuous years on her wonder house. But despite the prophecy, Death was not to be denied—and when, at 85, Sarah died, the clamor of hammer and saw was stilled.

Although peculiar, the Winchester House was built so durably that it withstood with only minor damage the 1906 earthquake which leveled San Francisco. It has its own heating, lighting, water and sewer systems, and many features considered most modern and desirable in today's construction—window shutters which open and close with a crank; gas lights which operate by pressing a button; one-piece porcelain laundry tubs with molded-in washboards and soap trays.

The aura of mystery into which Sarah L. Winchester delved deeply is plainly evidenced in many elements in the Mystery House—chandeliers with 13 lights; ceilings with 13 panels; rooms with 13 windows; 40 stairways, most with 13 steps; 13 bathrooms; trap doors, secret passageways; blind chimneys; closets opening onto blank walls or into space. Then there is the mysterious quotation wrought into two stained glass windows—actually made up of two quotations from two separate Shakespearean plays: "Wide unclasp the tables of their thoughts." And "These same thoughts people this little world." Who knows what thoughts and what spirits moved Sarah L. Winchester to memorialize these particular lines?

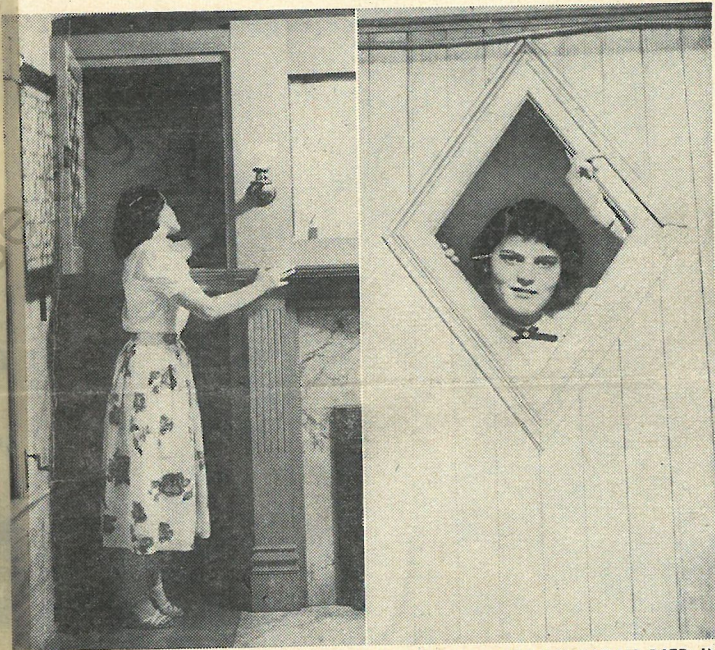
In the 160 rooms, there are: 3 elevators; 47 fireplaces; inside rooms with no outlet, yet with screened doors and windows; bathrooms with glass or screen doors; stairs that go nowhere; all the turned posts installed upside down.



22 YEARS OF BUILDING PRODUCED ZANY JUMBLE OF ARCHITECTURE

**PEOPLE
AT HOME** **HOUSE IS A HOME,
THE STRANGEST IN THE U.S.**

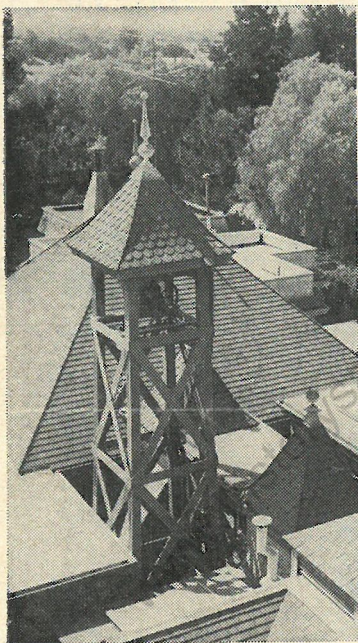
Words That Started Home-Building Frenzy: 'Keep Building and You Will Live Forever'



WALL CUPBOARDS, DIAMOND WINDOWS MARK ROOM SARAH DIED IN

It boasts 40 stairways—including one that requires 40 steps to drop only 10 feet; it has 10,000 windows and 2,000 doors, some opening on blank walls. Uncounted statues litter its 12-acre site. It's the strangest structure in the country—California's \$5-million Winchester Mystery House. The grotesque San Jose landmark

Small Fee Admits Curious to Mystery House



L.: TOWER BELL TO CHASE GHOSTS. R.: V-SHAPED STAIRCASE

was an ordinary, 17-room house dating from the early 1800's when Sarah L. Winchester took over in 1881. Heeding the advice of a medium who told her how to "live forever," widow Winchester ordered continual, day-and-night building. When she died in '22—medium notwithstanding—she'd spent the family fortune, left a 160-room home that's an architect's horror, tourist's joy.